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Portillo surrenders to Forces over ranks and money

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL PORTILLO has been forced to abandon radical proposals to cut the number of ranks in the Armed Forces, and to introduce performance-related pay.

But 17 months after Sir Michael made his 150 recommendations, just one has been approved. Mr Portillo, who recently pushed through plans to sell of MoD housing in the face of service hostility, was believed to be unwilling to risk another confrontation in the run-up to an election.

Senior commanders had said that morale would be further undermined if he pressed ahead. Sir Michael, who spent a year producing his report, recommended a cut in the number of officer ranks in each service from 12 to eight, and other ranks from six to seven to four. The ranks of lieutenant-general and major-general would be merged, as would brigadiers and colonels.

He also called for the scrapping or pruning of payments such as the boarding school allowance for foreign postings, which amounted to as much as 60 per cent of fees. MoD sources said the recommendations on allowances had proved to be one of the most sensitive areas.

The report was published in April last year. Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary who commissioned it, said that a Government response would follow in a matter of weeks. Now staff work on the report has been cut back. An MoD source said: "The work on Portillo is rushing forward very slowly."

The only proposal to be approved so far is the elimination of the five star ranks — admiral of the fleet, field marshal and marshal of the Royal Air Force — given to chiefs of the defence staff.



"Wow, Captain Birdseye is suddenly in a good mood"

Clinton flies in to handle Iraq crisis

By IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON, MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND JILL SHERMAN

PRESIDENT CLINTON last night cut short his holiday in his home state and returned to the White House amid reports that he was ready to hit back at President Saddam Hussein of Iraq sooner rather than later in retaliation for the raid into the Kurdish safe haven of Arbil.

Diplomats said they had no precise word on the timing or nature of a military strike, but there was widespread belief that it would be in the next day or two. It is likely to include attacks by Tomahawk cruise missiles launched by American Navy vessels in the Gulf region.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday indicated that British aircraft may be used against Saddam in northern Iraq, but it was "highly unlikely" that British ground troops would be sent in. Six RAF Tornados based at Incirlik, on the Turkish-Syrian border, are said to be standing by, although no decision has yet been made to use them for the offensive.

John Major, Mr Clinton and other international leaders were last night trying to reach agreement over a united response to Saddam's latest incursion into the Western-protected safe haven of Arbil, which has a population of one million, at the weekend. Options thought to be considered ranged from reversing a recent UN agreement to allow Iraq to sell £1.28 billion worth of oil for food supplies to air strikes on key Iraqi military installations.

Mr Clinton had travelled from Little Rock, Arkansas, to Wisconsin for two picnics to mark the Labour Day holiday. But then he was cutting short his campaigning to return to Washington. The White House had no comment on how America would respond, but all the military planning had been completed and needed only Mr Clinton's signature to be implemented.

Mike McCurry, the White House spokesman, told reporters aboard Air Force One, the President's plane, that Mr Clinton had "a defined course of action" to take against Saddam, but refused to elaborate. He did reveal that Anthony Lake, National Security Adviser, had flown to Little Rock on Sunday to brief Mr Clinton about Iraq.

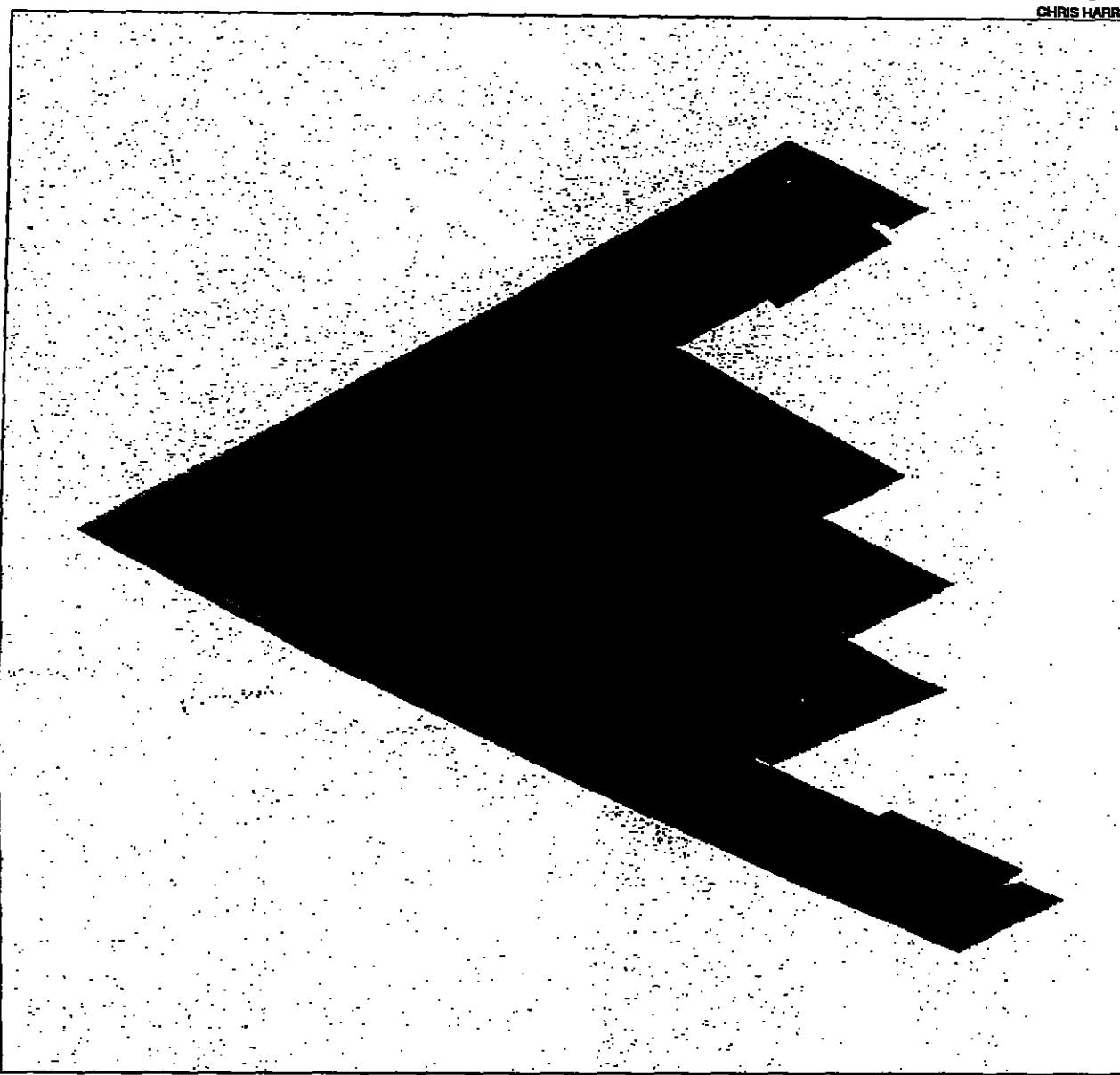
Tony wanted to show him some things that he would need to look at that you can't really see on the telephone," Mr McCurry said.

Mr Lake had spent an hour briefing the President and the two men had pored over charts and maps of Iraq and the region.

Perry Smith, a retired US Air Force general and now a military commentator for CNN, reported that many officers at the Pentagon were unusually busy and working long hours, leading him to believe that the attack would be soon. He said the cruise missiles were favoured because they were guided weapons that could hit with great precision on military targets that Saddam would be loath to lose.

He estimated that three divisions of Iraqi troops were north of the 36th parallel in the safe haven. He dismissed Iraq's claim of withdrawing from the Kurdish stronghold of Arbil as insignificant because the forces still remained outside the city. Mr McCurry said there was some evidence of an Iraqi redeployment, but no indication that units were preparing to return to their original forward positions.

Mr Rifkind, speaking from Tokyo, described the attack on Arbil as "a very serious problem and a clear threat to Kurdish people in the area," but he refused to be drawn on exactly what military options were being discussed.



The American Stealth bomber which made two almost inaudible passes at the Farnborough Air Show yesterday

From Montana to Farnborough and back in 21 hours without stopping

By MICHAEL EVANS

SPECTATORS at the Farnborough Air Show were yesterday given a glimpse of America's B-2 Stealth bomber. The aircraft made two almost inaudible passes over the airfield before flying straight back to Wightmans air force base in Montana on a non-stop 21-hour round trip.

At times the world's most expensive aircraft, the details of which are kept secret, was almost invisible because of its thin sleek profile that enables it to evade radar and infra-red detectors. The bomber has been plagued by controversy since it was unveiled in 1988.

Meanwhile it was announced that more than 14,000 jobs in Britain's aerospace industry were safe after the Government said it was committed to going ahead with the production of the Eurofighter. While heads were turned by the Stealth

bomber, an even more amazing show was put on after all the spectators had gone home. The spectacular Russian Su37 combat aircraft, which can "turn on a sixpence" and sit in the air like a snake charmer's cobra had to be put shown.

Yevgeni Frolov, its Russian pilot, refused to fly during the day after being told he could display only at low level. The Su37 shows off its talents best at high level. The Russian had failed to obtain a validation

certificate for high altitude acrobatics from the Society of British Aerospace Companies after strict safety margins were broken during rehearsals last week.

The Su37 has thrust vector controls like the British Harrier but it is otherwise unlike the famous jump-jet. It cannot take off straight up, like a helicopter, but once in the air it can perform dazzling tricks, including the "Cobra manoeuvre" when it "sits up and begs"

for several seconds before pitching down and roaring off in another direction. The aircraft can also continue the rotation until it is completely inverted.

The announcement of the go-ahead for the Eurofighter was made by Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, to coincide with a display by one of the prototypes at Farnborough. Britain's three European partners, Germany, Italy and Spain, have yet to confirm their commitment to financing the production of the multi-role aircraft.

However, the four partner nations are expected to sign inter-governmental arrangements and contracts for the production phase within the next six months.

Mr Portillo said the British Eurofighter which will be the

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The Eurofighter shows its paces at Farnborough

Student beaten unconscious 'for being a hero'

By KATE ALDERSON

A STUDENT who showed "chivalry and concern" to a girl he had found crying in a street is fighting for his life in hospital after being hit by a thug who taunted him about being a hero.

Andrew Poynton, 22, who is reading English literature and history at Staffordshire University, has undergone emergency surgery to remove a

blood clot from his brain. He is being treated for severe head injuries in Manchester Royal Infirmary where his condition is "critical".

Mr Poynton had been returning from a party with his girlfriend in Manchester early Saturday morning when he saw a young woman sobbing in a city centre side street. He had asked the woman if she was all right and, when she replied that she was, walked

on with Susan Gilbert, 20, his girlfriend. But Mr Poynton, from Stockport, was still concerned and went back.

He was confronted by a sneering youth who taunted Mr Poynton about being a hero. Mr Poynton and Miss Gilbert, from Milnrow, Rochdale, walked away but the youth jumped in front of them and punched Mr Poynton on the head. He fell and hit his head on the pavement. Last

night he had not regained consciousness and police said he was unlikely to make a full recovery.

Det Supt Arthur Provoost called on Mr Poynton's attacker to come forward. "I also appeal to the girl Andrew was trying to help. This was an unprovoked and unnecessary attack on a young man who was only attempting to show chivalry and concern to a stranger in distress."



Poynton: head injuries

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Trust plan for Royal Naval College fails to calm fears for future

By VALERIE ELLIOTT
WHITEHALL EDITOR

THE future of the Royal Naval College in Greenwich, which has been championed by the Duke of Edinburgh and the Prince of Wales, was still uncertain last night despite a government decision to set up a trust to protect it.

Senior naval sources were dismayed that Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, and Virginia Bottomley, National Heritage Secretary, accepted the proposal for the site to be largely taken over by Greenwich University without a properly defined role for the National Maritime Museum.

They also suspected that the timing of the announcement, on the same day as the go-ahead for the Eurofighter jet, was designed to ensure minimum scrutiny.

One source said last night: "After Mr Portillo's run-in with the top brass when noise from his party marred Beating the Retreat on Horseguards he does not really want to cause any more trouble. But he is not going to pull the wool over our eyes."

A recommendation to allow Greenwich University to house a campus on Sir Christopher Wren's site was put forward by the Greenwich Advisory Group, chaired by

Dame Jennifer Jenkins, and was supported by ministers in a statement yesterday.

But the detail of the group's report reveals serious misgivings about the university's ability to pay for the site. There is also concern that the museum, while remaining, has not been given a formal role.

One source said last night: "After all this time nothing is resolved about the future for the Royal Naval College. While I welcome the setting up of a trust, that could have been done nearly a year ago."

Nick Raynsford, Labour MP for Greenwich, last night also questioned the ability of



The Royal Naval College: to be university campus

the university to buy the buildings and maintain them properly. "With costs estimated by the report as £25 million to put the buildings into a good state of repair, and with

current maintenance costing £2 million a year, there must be concern about how these sums will be raised."

A full text of the advisory group's report further queries

the university's financial plan. "Depending on how present uncertainties turn out and the extent to which alternative sources of capital funding are available it [the university] may have to curtail or defer some of its aspirations."

It is known that the university has been negotiating for over a year with the Greenwich hospital for the lease on the Dreadnought building on the site. Mr Raynsford said last night: "The Dreadnought has already been left empty and neglected for nine years and is in an appalling state. If the university is in financial straits it might decide to drop its plans for that building and

that would leave an historic building in an appalling condition and would be a blight on the site."

A chairman and other trustees, as well as a chief executive, are to be appointed to organise the site's future and to negotiate a lease with the hospital.

Senior naval officers however believe much time has been wasted over the project. The Duke of Edinburgh has called the naval college's situation "chaotic".

Lord Rothschild put forward the suggestion of a trust last year, saying that it would be a suitable candidate for lottery support. Yesterday's

report also makes clear that funding for the future of the Royal Naval College could not be guaranteed from the heritage lottery fund as it is not allowed to pay for items which the Government as an outgoing tenant is liable.

Campaigners for the future of the naval college, however, are pleased the Government was forced to climb down from its original plan to sell off the site. There were fears the building might have been turned into a Japanese hotel, a supermarket or golf course. A Royal Parks Commission report suggested it could be turned into a Versailles-style baroque theme park.

Police ranks fall despite promises on recruitment

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE number of police officers has fallen by more than 800 during the past four years, in spite of government promises that they would increase the total strength of the service.

The fall in policemen and women available for ordinary duty is 1,401 since 1992, according to figures published by the Labour Party yesterday. This figure does not include officers seconded to regional crime squads and the Diplomatic Protection Group.

However, the Government pointed to a rise of 1,988 in the number of police constables from 95,662 in March 1992 to 97,650 in March this year. The Home Office said that the rise was created by reforms in which senior ranks have been reduced and more officers put on the beat.

Overall police numbers, including officers on secondment, have fallen by 823 from 128,045 in 1992 to 127,222 on March 31 last year. If officers on secondment are excluded, the numbers have fallen by 1,401 from 136,112 to 124,711 last year.

Alun Michael, Shadow home affairs spokesman, claimed that the figures showed that Conservative promises about providing extra police were worthless. He added: "Last year the Prime Minister announced that there would be an additional 5,000 police officers over three years — but when challenged as to where the money was coming from, it turned out that the police capital budget had been cut by the same amount as the 'new' money that was supposed to pay for additional officers."

A Home Office spokesman

said recruitment was up to chief constables. Under recent reforms they have been given power to decide how they spend their resources with the aim of providing greater flexibility in dealing with particular policing difficulties in their force areas.

Some forces are putting more emphasis on providing improved technology for their forces and better equipment for officers. But other forces have pressed ahead with employing more civilians to enable them to free more constables to be on patrol and carry out other policing duties. □ A Scottish police force yesterday became the first in Britain to introduce random drugs testing among its own officers. The move, which will also cover alcohol abuse, was announced by Ian Oliver, Chief Constable of Grampian Police, who said his force would set new standards for other employers to follow.

Dr Oliver said that he would be "failing in his duty to the public" if he did not make sure officers were properly prepared to walk the beat or drive high-performance police cars. All recruits will be required to take a compulsory test. Those moving into specialist fields such as armed units and traffic operations will also be tested.

Random testing will be carried out among 10 per cent of the force each year, with the first tests likely to begin later this year. Dr Oliver said everyone would be involved and he would be happy to be the first. Anyone refusing and then found to have a drugs or drink problem could face disciplinary action.



Michael Heseltine in the cockpit of the Eurofighter at Farnborough yesterday

From Montana to Farnborough

Continued from page 1
RAF's frontline combat aircraft for the next century, would be assembled at British Aerospace factories in Lancashire from components manufactured by the four partner nations. Rolls Royce will manufacture the engines, primarily at Bristol and Derby.

The Eurofighter which will cost Britain about £15.4 billion for 232 aircraft, gave an impressive debut performance at Farnborough although it was outshone by the American bat-shaped B2

thirty-nine demonstrators who were arrested at the Farnborough Air Show were members of the Campaign Against Arms Trade which protests at displays.

bomber, Sir Richard Evans, Chairman and Chief Executive of British Aerospace, stressed that the Eurofighter demonstrated at Farnborough did not have the new EJ200 engine which is being developed specially for the aircraft. Two of the six proto-

types now have the new engine.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that more than 6,000 jobs currently depended on the Eurofighter development phase but this would rise to about 14,000 at the peak of production. The first Eurofighter is due to be delivered to the RAF in 2001.

Opening the Farnborough air show, Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, said the Eurofighter was playing an important part in a more integrated European aerospace industry.

Teachers suspend strike threats

By DAVID CHARTER

TEACHERS have suspended a strike threat over an unruly 13-year-old boy after a compromise deal was reached last night. Seven of nine teachers at Manton Junior School in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, were due to begin industrial action at the start of the new term today if Matthew Wilson was allowed to return.

A walkout over a disruptive 13-year-old girl at the Ridings School in Halifax, west Yorkshire, was also halted yesterday when her mother withdrew her from the school after a meeting with the headmaster and chairman of the governors.

Members of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers were threatening to strike if they had to teach the children, both of whom had been expelled. However, yesterday's backdown is still seen as a stop-gap agreement and strike action seems possible at Manton if a long-term solution cannot be found.

Governors are offering individual tuition to Matthew Wilson. He was twice expelled from the school last term for violent and unruly behaviour. But in both cases was reinstated by governors. Pamela Cliffe, Matthew's mother, agreed last night not to send him back to school until Monday. Nottinghamshire County Council has agreed that he will have his own teacher from Monday.

Nigel de Gruchy, NASUWT general secretary, claimed a victory in the Ridings case but said that there was still much talking to be done to resolve the dispute involving Matthew. "At the moment I am pessimistic because my members believe this boy is an absolute menace," he said. "Feelings are still running very high and at present my members do not want him back in the school."

Church is urged to worship in tongues

The Church of England is being urged to conduct services in foreign languages for overseas tourists. George Cobbett, in a letter to *Outlook*, the Canterbury diocesan newspaper, says that the crowds of foreigners who visit the cathedral each year have little chance to worship in their own languages. "With honourable exception such as the small Huguenot chapel in the cathedral, where French is spoken, the Gospel is not preached to them although on holiday minds are more receptive to religion."

However, the chances of his idea being accepted by the church are remote. Many cathedrals provide leaflets and guides for foreign tourists in the summer. But David Earham, Canterbury press officer, said: "There are so many languages that where do you start and where do you finish? After all, this is the Church of England."

Jenkins call to voters

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead yesterday suggested that Liberal Democrat supporters consider voting Labour in order to defeat Conservative candidates. Lord Jenkins, who helped to found the Social Democratic Party in 1981 and is now leader of the Liberal Democrats in the Lords, said there was much common ground between Labour and the Liberal Democrats and welcomed anti-Tory tactical voting by supporters of both parties. "I welcome people voting with their intelligence in by-elections," he told BBC Radio 4's *Today*.

EU backs fish farmers

The European Union is to open anti-dumping proceedings against Norwegian salmon farmers at the request of Scottish growers who say artificially cheap imports are ruining their industry. Farmed Atlantic salmon from Norway is being sold in the EU at prices up to 30 per cent below the cost of production, say Scottish growers whose share of the EU market has fallen from 23 per cent to 18 per cent. They claim this is unfair as the Norwegian firms get a state subsidy of £450 to £500 a tonne.

Beekeeping monk dies

A Benedictine monk who devoted his life to beekeeping has died at Buckfast Abbey, Devon, aged 98. Brother Adam, who died on Sunday, became a member of the Buckfast community at the age of 12. He took charge of the monastery's disease-ravaged colonies in 1922 and became a world authority on bees. The German-born expert was awarded the OBE in 1974 and wrote three books on beekeeping, including one on Buckfast bees.

Obituary, page 17

Climbers die in storm

A Cambridge graduate is among three climbers declared dead after they went missing on a mountain in northern Pakistan three weeks ago. Stephen Thornley, 25, right, who had just completed his doctorate in geology in New Zealand, had been on his last climb before returning to Britain to begin his career. He and two colleagues, British-born Andrew Boas, 24, and New Zealander Christopher Hoare, 32, had not been seen since August 12. They split from the rest of a six-man team to make an ascent on the summit of 25,800ft Distaghil Sar shortly before a storm descended for three days. The other three, Thomas Davies, Dominic Hammond and Peter Marriott, took a different route and were forced back to base camp by the conditions.



Sins of the flesh exposed

Traders and hoteliers in Minehead are taking a stand against the exposed beer bellies sported by thousands of trippers to the north Somerset resort this summer. They have launched a campaign to make the wearing of a shirt in public compulsory, as is the rule in certain French resorts. Malcolm Robinson, who sparked the call for action in a letter to the local newspaper, said: "It seems the more flesh they carry, the more they want to expose it. It is very unpleasant and not very hygienic."

Lib Dems get tough on Europe

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT leaders are to counter accusations that they are the "poodles of Brussels" by criticising European Union failings over the beef problem and fisheries at their annual conference later this month.

The change of tactic follows private warnings from some senior Liberal Democrats that too much enthusiasm about the EU could prevent the party taking certain seats from the Tories at the next election. Activists at the Brighton conference will be asked to back plans for stripping away Brussels's power over fishing policy. A motion backed by the

leadership will demand regional policies to be managed by groups of countries fishing in the Mediterranean, North Sea or Irish Sea. There will also be heavy criticism of the handling of BSE in cattle by the EU as well as the Government.

Paddy Ashdown's aides insist that the party has not shifted from its pro-European position but one senior figure said: "We need to show that we have a balanced view of Europe and that we don't accept everything that comes from Brussels, which we never have." The party leader will strive to fight off claims that

the party has "gone soft" on Europe by making the party's stance on Europe a central part of his conference speech.

The party's strong pro-European position could be unpopular with voters in the South West — the English region where the Liberal Democrats are strongest — where fishermen claim their industry has been severely damaged by EU policies. In Scotland and Wales there is anger over the EU ban on British beef.

The polls suggest that Liberal Democrat voters are no more Europhile than supporters of other parties.

TUC puts pressure on Labour

By PHILIP BASSETT AND JILL SHERMAN

JOHN MONKS, the TUC General Secretary, insists today that the unions will expect a much closer relationship with government ministers if Labour wins the general election.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Monks also makes it clear that the unions will be looking for early legislation from a Labour government led by Tony Blair on minimum standards at work, including a national minimum wage. His demands coincide with increasing pressure from individual trade unions at this month's party conference to persuade Mr Blair to improve workers' rights.

At the TUC annual conference in Blackpool next week, unions will press for a range of issues, including employment rights for full-time and part-time workers from the first day of work. Tony Blair has



Monks: a "widening" of role with Blair Cabinet

made clear that he has no intention of keeping to that pledge. Several unions are also concerned about the Labour Party's failure to spell out details of trade union recognition rights. A policy paper issued in July suggests that unions will be able to ballot "relevant" workplaces on recognition, but unions are concerned that ballots will only be

held once membership has reached a trigger point. Demands for a minimum wage ranging from £4 an hour to more than £5.50 have also been made. Mr Blair has made clear that Labour will only decide the level once it is in power, on the advice of a special commission.

The Labour leader will attend next week's TUC conference, but will not publicly address it — though he will give a speech to a private TUC dinner. Other Shadow Cabinet Ministers are expected to attend.

In his *Times* interview, Mr Monks denies that unions would have any formal role in a Blair-led government, but he adds: "We do see a close set of relationships with the key ministers. That would be important."

While he says the TUC has that now with a Conservative Government in areas such as training and health and safety, he acknowledges the union

will look to "widen" that role, especially on European issues. He accepts that there is little prospect of such a change if the Conservatives win, but denies that that such a role goes beyond the "fairness not favours" relationship between a Labour government and the unions which both he and Mr Blair support.

But Mr Monks says he is looking for early legislation from a Labour government but accepts minimum wage legislation will not take effect until about two years from now. "My hope is that Labour should introduce quickly a Bill for minimum standards (at work) — which would include the 'minimum wage'. We are keen to see that approach."

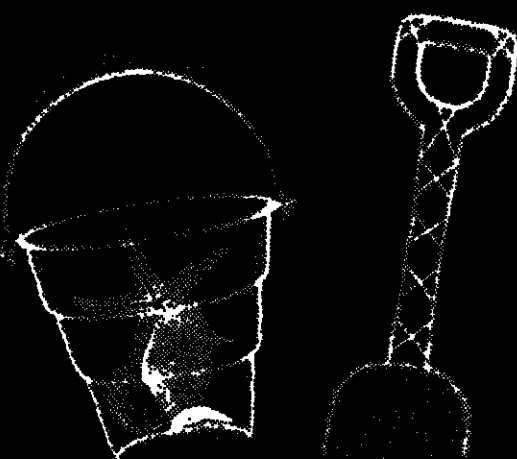
CORRECTIONS

□ A report on the Globe Theatre (August 22) should have described Victoria Walmsley as a 25-year-old qualified self-employed dramatherapist, not as a student. We apologise for the error.

□ In a television preview (August 22) of *Defence of the Realm: Harrier Force*, a remark attributed to an RAF officer was wrong. In fact he said: "I don't think anybody would shoot anybody in a parachute because it would be wasting time."

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Body of drowned boy ends search

Last hopes dashed, parents of Tom and Jodi return home

By JOANNA BALE

THE parents of Tom and Jodi Loughlin were preparing to return home last night after a post-mortem examination revealed that their son, whose body was found on a Norfolk beach on Sunday, had died from drowning like his sister.

A police spokesman said: "Provisional findings are that the cause of death was consistent with drowning and police are not treating it as suspicious."

The children's parents, Kevin Loughlin, a computer consultant, and his partner, Lynette Thornton, a physiotherapist, are expected to go back to their home in Norwich, south London, in the next few days. The grief-stricken couple have not been home since Jodi, 6, and Tom, 4, vanished 16 days ago from a beach at Holme next the Sea, near Hunstanton.

They have stayed at a secret address in north Norfolk to keep in close contact with police while clinging to the hope that the children might be alive. Those hopes were dashed when Jodi's body was found washed up on a beach on Friday and the body of a boy was found three miles away on Sunday. Police believe it is a near-certainty that it is the body of Tom. The parents were told about the discovery of the boy's body on Sunday night.

They last saw their children running excitedly towards the sea on the second day of their



Tom: non-swimmer



Jodi: body found first

week-long holiday in a rented Norfolk cottage. A Norfolk policeman, involved in the search for the children, said: "They went on holiday as a complete family — but just the two of them will be going home. It will be terrible for them going back to their house, which is full of so many pictures of their children and happy memories. It is every

parents' worst nightmare." Norfolk police have received hundreds of calls from members of the public across Britain wanting to pass on messages of sympathy to the couple. Constable Mel Lacey, the force's spokesman, said: "Some have even sent them flowers. Kevin and Lynette have gained strength from the support of people they do not even know. While they have to go home at some stage, they are still being remarkably strong. Obviously they have got more distressed with the latest developments. But officers who have been close to them are full of admiration for the way they have dealt with the situation."

A jogger found the body of Jodi, still clad in her purple swimming costume, washed up by the high tide between Weybourne and Sheringham, 30 miles east of the spot where she disappeared. Thirty two hours later, on Sunday afternoon, a walker found the body of a boy on rocks further east at Sheringham.

To spare her parents further distress forensic experts identified Jodi by comparing her fingerprints to those taken from some of her toys. The same technique was expected to be used to identify the boy's body.

The couple noticed their children were missing on Holme beach after just five minutes and searched nearby dunes for two hours before calling police. Neither child could swim. At the time the sea was calm and the incoming tide was still exposing 200 yards of sandy beach. Both Mr Loughlin and Ms Thornton said they could not believe that their children had drowned in such short a time when the sea was so calm.

A three-day search involving police, firemen, coastguards, lifeboats and rescue helicopters failed to find any trace of Tom and Jodi and police became increasingly convinced that they had been swept out to sea.



Kevin Loughlin and Lynette Thornton: going home



Josephine Russell at Howletts Zoo: she insists on wearing a hat to hide her scars

Attack girl continues recovery

By RICHARD DUCE

THE remarkable recovery of Josephine Russell, who witnessed her mother and sister being beaten to death, continued to amaze police yesterday as she paid a visit to the zoo.

This photograph is the first of Josephine, 9, since she was allowed to leave King's College Hospital in London two weeks ago. Zoo staff at Howletts, near Canterbury, allowed her to cuddle a young gorilla during the visit with

her father, Shaun. Two months ago Josephine had been given up for dead after an attack which claimed the lives of her mother Lin, 45, and sister Megan, 6, as they walked home from school to the Kent village of Nonington. Josephine now insists on wearing hats to hide the scars of the head wounds inflicted by the attacker, who has still to be caught.

Dr Russell agreed that she be photographed before tonight's screening of the BBC

Crimewatch programme which police hope will provide new leads in the hunt for the killer. They are optimistic that Josephine, whose speech has been affected by her injuries, will soon be able to talk to them.

A police spokeswoman said: "She has made an incredible recovery considering that she was on a life-support machine immediately after the attack." Police believe her evidence as a witness to the attacks could be vital.

Director rubbed baby oil into stripper's chest, tribunal is told

By PETER FOSTER

A COMPANY director who claimed that a birthday strip-tease left her suffering post-traumatic stress disorder helped him to take off his shirt and rubbed baby oil into his chest, a tribunal was told yesterday.

Gail Steele, 44, was handcuffed and slung over the naked man's back last February after fellow directors at the opticians Optika organised a stripper to pose as a job applicant. Thirteen days after the incident Miss Steele was sacked for alleged incompetence.

At a hearing which was adjourned in June Miss Steele described the experience as "horrific". A psychiatrist said that she had suffered trauma similar to that of victims of a sexual assault or a bombing.

But yesterday, at the reopening of the hearing, a colleague said that Miss Steele gave every indication of enjoying the strip-tease. Karen Connors, 24, personnel manager at the firm in Harrow, north-west London, said: "She took off her shirt and put baby oil on her chest. He took the handcuffs off and kissed her on the cheek. Gail was laughing throughout."

Afterwards she said: "It was a bit embarrassing." She said the stripper looked like a pimp and he looked a bit scruffy. Miss Connors said her office had been filled with up to 15 women of all ages and she was sure that someone would have stopped the stunt if it had gone too far. She added: "She was an extrovert who always had something to say and was a bit of a flirt."

Jennifer De Couto, 28, the directors' personal assistant, said she thought it was "rubbish" that Miss Steele may have been intimidated: "My impression was that Gail was laughing all the way through. Afterwards she said she was very embarrassed and wanted to run and hide in the toilets. Gail was strong to the point of being harsh. It is ridiculous to suggest she felt intimidated."

Robert Riley, managing director of Optika, said: "My impression is she is a tough

lady. I find it very hard to believe she will be intimidated by anyone or anything."

He said that Miss Steele had been dismissed because of her "open hostile attitude" towards him when he was brought in during a proposed management buyout. He said that her manner was frequently confrontational and she made disparaging remarks about the other directors.

The stripper, Earl Thomas, 28, of Battersea, south London, said he felt sorry for Miss Steele but could not remember the booking, despite looking at photographs of the incident. He said that he had given up his strip-tease job, but not because of the complaint by Miss Steele.

During his two years in the job he had been asked to pose as policemen and as Tarzan but could remember few details of the 100 or so bookings. He said he would stop if anyone seemed embarrassed or upset and was sensitive to their feelings.

Asked where he would draw the line, he said: "I would only do what I had been asked to do. I would not do sexual favours. I am married."

Miss Steele is claiming unfair dismissal and sexual discrimination against Optika. She is also suing for £320,000 in the High Court next year. She was the only female executive and worked as operations director on a salary of £60,000. The hearing continues.



Gail Steele: she is suing for unfair dismissal

Prison for massacre threats

By A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN who telephoned four schools, threatening to massacre schoolchildren and teachers, should have been jailed for more than the legal maximum of six months, a stipendiary magistrate said yesterday. Ian Gillespie, sitting at Durham Magistrates' Court, criticised the restriction after hearing that, in May, two months after the Dunblane massacre by Thomas Hamilton, Paul Newman, 25, who was drunk, had caused consternation by telephoning schools and declaring: "I am going to shoot all the kids and teachers."

Mr Gillespie said: "My powers are woefully inadequate for this crime. I would happily send you to Crown Court for a very substantial sentence. But the powers that be have restricted me to a maximum sentence of six months. The effect of your offending was to cause anxiety, fear and distress. That anybody could behave like this in the wake of the tragedy of Dunblane beggars belief."

Newman, of New Brancepeth, Durham, admitted using the telephone system to send menacing messages and failing to surrender to bail when he appeared last month. John Grierson, for the defence, said Newman wanted to express sincere remorse. He had been "drunk and looking for notoriety".

Father wins case on being at birth

By RICHARD DUCE

A DELIVERY driver was unfairly sacked for insisting that he be at his wife's bedside for the birth of their first child, an industrial tribunal ruled yesterday. Although Robert Stennings, 39, was held to be 50 per cent to blame for being sacked, he was awarded compensation of almost £2,000.

Mr Stennings, of Burnage, Manchester, described how was reduced to tears by his boss at the Manchester-based heating firm Supa Heat when he was refused leave to visit his wife, Christine, who had been taken to hospital with high blood pressure before the birth of his daughter Charlotte, now five months.

He claimed that the company owner, Michael Johnson, told him: "Don't bother coming back." He said Mr Johnson added that a pilot or captain would not turn back an aircraft or ship because of a birth. "I thought it was a ludicrous comparison. He said that my wife going to hospital was nothing to do with him and that Supa Heat was not going to stop because of a baby. He said he would sack me if I did this. I said I would not treat a dog the way he treated me."

Mr Johnson, who defended himself at the hearing in Manchester, told Mr Stennings: "Your attitude made for a very unpleasant

and difficult working relationship. Nobody at an hour's notice could reasonably expect to leave their post." Mr Johnson claimed he had suggested that Mr Stennings, whose annual holiday entitlement was three weeks a year, took two weeks off either side of his wife's due confinement date on March 18.

Mr Stennings was awarded £995 in lieu of redundancy and £740 compensation for projected loss of earnings.

New fathers should have two weeks' paid paternity leave, according to a campaign launched yesterday. They should also receive a further two weeks' unpaid leave at any time in the child's first year. Our Baby magazine says.



Stennings: his boss said he could not leave job

Doctor who pulled gun is jailed

By A STAFF REPORTER

A DOCTOR who threatened a disabled man with a starting pistol when a Ford Escort blocked his BMW was jailed for three months yesterday. Dr Chidi Uche, who had a letter of good character from the Labour MP Ken Livingstone read out in court, also faces being struck off.

The cardiac registrar flashed his lights and sounded his horn when he was delayed by the Ford Escort reversing to park in Crickehowe, north London. When Michael McNamara, a passenger who is partially sighted, got out to speak to the doctor, Uche pulled out an imitation pistol and threatened to shoot him.

As he sped off, Mr McNamara's partner Margaret O'Rourke took down the doctor's registration number. Armed police raided his house and found the starting pistol.

Uche, 28, of Willesden Green, north London, had denied possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear or violence. His wife is eight months' pregnant.

Harrow Crown Court was told that Mrs O'Rourke had been waiting for a heart-lung transplant at the time of the offence. The couple were being given a lift from bingo.

Tim Clark, for Uche, said: "Jail will ruin this man."

Barclays manager accused of fraud

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE manager of a Barclays business centre used a forged letter of guarantee in a plot to secure a £5 million loan from a Swiss bank. It was alleged yesterday.

Guy Wheeler, 36, is said to have faxed the bank in Geneva from the living room of his Nottinghamshire home, making the document appear to be from the Barclays office where he worked in Derby. But the conspiracy failed because one of his accomplices was under police surveillance. Inner London Crown Court

Bank in Switzerland. "The guarantee made it a very powerful instrument," Mr Coleman said. "Barclays would be legally bound to pay over £10 million."

Mr Wheeler, of Gonalston, and Mr Doherty, of west London, deny conspiracy to forge the letter of guarantee. A third suspect, Ernest Cilia, is believed to be in his native Malta or in Turkey.

Mr Coleman said: "That document required two signatures. Mr Wheeler was going to provide one and for the other Mr Wheeler provided Mr Doherty with a list of authorised signatures."

conspiracy, insisting he had no intention of seeing it through. But Mr Coleman added: "Mr Doherty's involvement went far beyond anything legitimate as an informant. He was the originator of the fraud in this country."

Mr Wheeler was arrested in December 1994 by Detective Inspector John Morse of the South East regional crime squad. Mr Morse told the court that he found a fax machine and surgical gloves at the house as well as a document apparently signed by Mr Wheeler.

When asked whether he regularly wore gloves when handling documents

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Call for tighter laws as victim tells officers of her ordeal

Jailed stalker will not give up

By STEWART TENDLER

THE first stalker jailed for inflicting psychological grievous bodily harm on a victim is still trying to harass her from his prison cell, police disclosed yesterday.

In a test case that prompted calls for new laws, Anthony Burstow, a former chief petty officer, was jailed after harassing Tracey Sant, who had worked with him at a naval depot in Gosport. Burstow is now in Bullingdon Prison, near Oxford, where he was discovered trying to write to her. The letters were seized.

Police believe that Burstow, whose case is going to the House of Lords over a point of law, will not give up his obsession. He is not receiving psychiatric help in prison. On his expected release next September Mrs Sant is likely to need police protection unless new legislation is in place.

Details of Burstow's fixation were disclosed as his victim addressed an International Police Women's Conference in Birmingham. She spoke of the impact of years of torment, which she blamed for destroying her marriage. She and her

husband, Andy, are divorcing next month. From 1992 to 1995 Burstow followed her, telephoned her, placed bugs in her home, damaged her car and rented a house 500 yards from her home.

Reading out extracts from a diary of her ordeal, Mrs Sant said: "I go from day to day. I know he will be about next year. But for police officers, I would not be alive today. This is the first time it has gone very quiet. It is quite strange."

Her husband moved out because he could not take any more, she said. "He had

already beaten up Anthony Burstow and could not deal with the change of personality and depression in me." The couple had to move home during the harassment, and fighting Burstow through civil courts had cost thousands. He had legal aid.

The five-day International Police Training Conference was called jointly by the International Association of Women Police Officers and the European Network for Police Women. Detective Sergeant Linda Fernor, who helped to put Burstow behind

bars, said there was no sign he would stop his obsession. The only hope was new legislation.

Maria Wallis, Assistant Chief Constable of Hampshire, said police would support legislation now being planned to enable early action against stalkers. Proposals include new powers of arrest for harassment and penalties including £5,000 fines and five-year prison sentences.

Mrs Wallis led an investigation by the Association of Chief Police Officers into the extent of stalking. Out of 44 forces who were asked about

the differing types of behaviour involved, only four were unable to give examples.

Analysis of 151 cases showed that 40 stalkers were known casually by their victims, 32 were unknown, 30 had some other relationship, 25 were "domestic" stalkers — ex-partners or husbands — and 24 began their obsession in the workplace. Mrs Wallis said: "Almost without exception, there had been some form of initial harassment before any criminal offence could have said to have been committed."

Anne Strahan, from the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, said that one woman was stalked by a middle-aged man from the age of 14 to 20. Other stalkers included a psychotherapist who harassed one of his staff.

Women are put off joining the police by a macho culture that labels female officers as "dykes, bikes and burglars' dogs", delegates heard. Malcolm Young, an anthropologist, said that anti-sexist measures had simply driven chauvinism underground. "The situation will change only if we have a 50-50 ratio of male and female officers."



Tracey Sant yesterday: ordeal ended her marriage

We've done nothing wrong, say wife beaters

By STEWART TENDLER

MORE than 80 per cent of men who had beaten their wives could not understand what they had done wrong and why they were facing criminal charges, it was claimed yesterday.

Only two men out of 23 interviewed by a researcher after their arrest accepted that their behaviour caused the incident. Many were angry that the police had been called.

The research, unveiled at the International Police Training Conference, was carried out by Superintendent Stephanie Yearside of Northumbria Police, among men held in the Sunderland area. She said many of them defied the traditional stereotype of a thug; they were "regular men" with jobs, no criminal record and little or no background of violence in their own childhoods.

Bad housing was often blamed for violence but all the men lived in decent local authority housing. All but two were manual workers. Nearly a quarter said violence had gone on for two years.

British Psychological Society

Crime linked to difficult births

By JEREMY LAURANCE

CHILDREN who have difficult births and are separated from their mothers in the first year are more likely to follow a life of crime, a psychologist said yesterday.

Results from a study of 4,200 men born in 1959 and followed until the age of 34 showed that those who had complications at birth and who spent at least four months of their first year in institutions were more likely to have a violent criminal record.

Adrian Raine, Professor of Psychology at the University of Southern California, who presented results of the study to the annual conference of the British Psychological Society's criminological and legal division in York yesterday, said that 4 per cent of the children accounted for 18 per cent of the violent crime committed when they were adults. The main factors were the breaking of the mother-infant bond and problems at birth involving deprivation of oxygen to the brain, although neither had an effect on its own. "Like two inert chemicals, when they come together you get an explosive reaction," he said.

The results confirm the pattern disclosed in an earlier

report on the experiences of the group up to the age of 18. Critics argued that the research had shown an association, not a cause, and that many other factors helped to shape the criminal mind.

Professor Raine said the violent crime rate might be cut by up to 18 per cent if the incidence of birth complications could be reduced. The theory could be tested with a study on 500 mothers given superior antenatal care.

A second study, which followed 100 children in the North of England for nine years, found that those with a low heart rate at the age of 15 were significantly more likely to have a criminal conviction by the age of 24. "They were the sluggish individuals with a low level of psychological arousal," Professor Raine said. "One theory is that to increase arousal back to normal levels, they seek stimulation from crime."

Professor Raine said there was a clear genetic basis to criminal behaviour. Studies of adopted children showed their anti-social behaviour was more like that of their genetic parents than that of their adoptive parents.

Police traumatised by forensic work

ADVANCES in technique requiring police to spend hours examining horrific crimes are exacting a heavy psychological toll, researchers said yesterday (Jeremy Laurance writes). Post-mortem examinations that used to take no more than 30 minutes now last many hours, and police are suffering nightmares and flashbacks.

Scene-of-crime officers have to photograph or film victims, take fingerprints and collect other items for forensic investigation. A study of 45 such officers at Strathclyde Police found that a third showed symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Chief Inspector Ian Hogg, head of the identification bu-

reau, said there had been 80 murders and 500 suspicious deaths in Strathclyde last year. "Scene-of-crime officers attend one or two deaths each week — road accidents, train crashes, murders, suicides — to take photos and fingerprints. These guys just have to get on with it."

Post-mortems used to involve a simple record of external marks on the body. Now, photographs of internal organs and X-rays were required, Mr Hogg said.

Margaret Mitchell, of Glasgow Caledonian University, presenting the research to the British Psychological Society in York, said the emotional impact of certain crimes stayed with officers for years.



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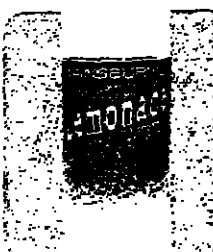
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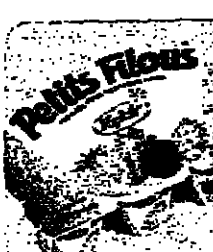
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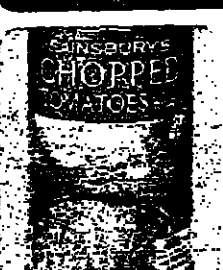
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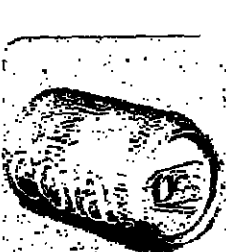
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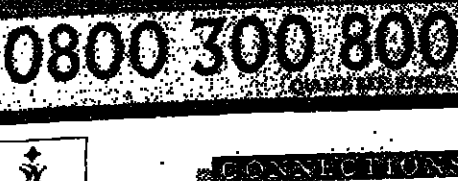
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Collapse in leatherback turtle numbers prompts fear of extinction



The leatherback population has fallen sharply

By NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE leatherback turtle is heading for extinction, according to research showing a collapse in numbers at its biggest nesting site.

Scientists said yesterday that the fall at the site in Mexico was probably being repeated at other breeding sites from Malaysia to the Americas. The turtles, the largest in the world, at 1.5 metres long, are also occasionally found off the west coast of Britain.

"Our findings underscore what

field scientists have feared for some time, namely that the world's largest population of endangered leatherback turtles has collapsed," say the scientists, part of the World Conservation Union in Switzerland, based at the Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute in San Diego, California, and academic centres in Mexico including the Ciudad University.

Leatherback turtles have nested in large numbers off the west and south coasts of Mexico for hundreds of thousands of years. Numbers have fallen steadily across the world because of various pressures, includ-

ing coastal development such as sea defences, marinas and the mechanical raking of beaches. The turtles are also disturbed by night-time bathers, off-road vehicles and litter.

Dr Heather Hall, of London Zoo, said yesterday that it was possible that the leatherback population had declined to a critical level: "You sometimes get to such a low level of numbers that, when you get a huge drop, you have to meet it, but once a population gets to a critically low level, this may no longer occur." Unlike many marine species, turtles kept to the same beach for nesting

even if the site had been redeveloped, destroyed by a sea defence or "a disco starts every time they come back". Dr Hall said.

At sea the animals, *Dermochelys coriacea*, become entangled in fishermen's nets, are hit by boats and harmed by pollution. "Like dolphins and whales, they are high up the food chain and vulnerable to pollution," Dr Hall said.

The new studies show that, from Mexiquillo down to Chiapas on the Pacific coast of Mexico, numbers are down to just 5,222 nests during the 1995 to 1996 season. The area

supports half the world's nesting population of leatherbacks.

At Mexiquillo, the researchers, using field surveys and aerial photography, found that the number of nests had fallen from more than 6,500 in 1984 to less than 500 in the 1995-1996 breeding season. Over that 12-year period, the annual rate of decline amounted to between a fifth and a half of the turtle population.

The scientists believe that a similar pattern of decline is occurring at other leatherback nesting sites which are less well monitored.

Lottery cash switch will help to fund arts professionals

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

LOTTERY money will be redirected to subsidise professional stage performances in a trial scheme being launched today.

Original rules said that arts groups could have grants only for building repairs, but there are growing fears that Britain could soon be littered with beautiful theatres standing empty. However, the switch has raised concern that Lottery money is being directed into an area where it might be used to replace Government spending.

The Lottery's new scheme will make about £5 million available to 15 companies for running costs in the first 12 months. The Arts Council of England is inviting applications from professional and amateur groups. Applicants must attract audiences or attendances of more than 25,000 a year.

Until now, Lottery money has been used to pay for buildings that had been neglected for decades and to construct new ones. The flow of money has led to a huge imbalance between running costs and capital costs. The Royal Court Theatre in London received £16 million to

redevelop its space, but says that it remains "poverty-stricken" as far as running costs go.

Arts companies applying under the new "stabilisation scheme" must have been trading for at least five years and must not have received a grant for building purposes. The Royal Opera House, for example, would not be eligible, but the cash-strapped Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, whose musicians have taken pay cuts, would be able to apply.

A final figure for the scheme has yet to be confirmed. The estimate is £5 million, but it will be determined by the kind of group that applies.

Organisations which are increasingly forced to pare down their activities greeted the idea yesterday, while reiterating fears that it would provide the Government with an excuse to reduce funding. Jennifer Edwards, director of the National Campaign for the Arts, welcomed any offer of financial help but pointed out that £5 million was exactly the amount that the Treasury removed from the Arts Council's budget last year.

She said that, however much the Arts Council denied

creating a bail-out fund for debt-ridden companies, "I suspect that a lot of deficits will end up being paid off with this. The deficit on the theatre side in England is getting on for £7 million."

An Arts Council spokeswoman described it as an initiative to aid long-term strategies.

The council's secretary-general, Mary Allen, writing in today's *Times*, acknowledges that, although £500 million of Lottery money has been shared among about 800 organisations, companies are struggling to meet running costs and pay off deficits. She asks: "Why is one amateur group receiving nearly £1 million for a new building, while the professional theatre down the road does not have the funds to reopen? The arts in Britain are currently suffering from economic schizophrenia."

On the one hand, large sums of money are being spent on the capital infrastructure; on the other, we see increasing deficits, curtailed programmes and inhibited creativity."

Leading article, page 15
Why we've relented, page 32



Gray: stabbed to death

Bishop pays tribute to vicar's work

THE funeral service of the Rev Christopher Gray was held yesterday, near the spot where he was murdered in the grounds of his own church.

The Bishop of Liverpool, the Right Rev Sheppard, told mourners at St Margaret's church in Anfield that Mr Gray was "a centre of resistance" to the destructive forces of violence, fatalism and despair. Mr Gray, 32, was stabbed to death on August 13. A 31-year-old man has been charged with his murder.

About 300 mourners, including the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Frank Doran, and police officers working on the murder case crowded into the bright contemporary church where Mr Gray had made such an impression during his 15 months as vicar. A further 200 listened to the service via loudspeakers in the neighbouring parish centre.



Colleagues of Christopher Gray after the service at St Margaret's, Anfield

Unwanted girl put out with rubbish

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A NEWBORN baby girl was thrown down a rubbish chute by her mother and left to die because she was not a boy, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

Oluwatimilola Oloko, 23, an illegal immigrant from Nigeria, was said to be suffering from postnatal depression and under cultural pressure to have a son. Careworkers had difficulty locating mother and child after they left hospital and police eventually found the two-day-old child wedged in the chute, covered by rubbish, at Oloko's home in Lambeth, south London.

Oloko, who is unmarried and also has an 18-month-old who is with foster parents, had wanted a boy to please her boyfriend, the court was told. The baby, who had not been given a name, was born at King's College Hospital, London, last December after the mother had earlier been refused an abortion because the foetus was more than 20 weeks old.

Orlando Pownall, for the prosecution, said that nurses noted Oloko's lack of interest in the baby. He said: "When told it was a girl she said, 'Oh, no, I wanted a boy.' She was encouraged to cuddle the baby but held it at arm's length as if it were an inanimate object."

After taking the baby home by taxi to her second-floor flat, Oloko dumped her in the rubbish chute where she was caught in a blockage. Mr Pownall said: "The weather was very cold. The child would have survived for between three and five hours."

Oloko's plea of not guilty to murder was accepted after she pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of infanticide. Oloko, who arrived from Nigeria in 1994 using a false passport, is seeking asylum. An appeal against a refusal by the Home Office is pending.

Oloko was put on probation for two years on condition she has psychiatric treatment. Mr Justice Wright told her: "What you did was appalling and something I am sure you will never forget."

Doctors can do better than say: 'Keep taking the tablets'

PSYCHIATRISTS have few doubts that many of the recent much-publicised tragedies caused by patients discharged into the community result from a failure to take prescribed medication.

When I practised in Norfolk, one of my patients, a pleasant woman who lived peacefully with her village neighbours, was having long-term treatment for schizophrenia. She suffered hallucinations — when she saw the Virgin Mary — and bouts of depression, but was a bad pill swallower. Whenever she

stopped taking the main tranquilliser, her anguished husband would soon be throwing stones at my bedroom window to tell me that she was seeing visions. When she had forgotten the anti-depressants, she dissolved into uncontrollable weeping. Together, her husband and I managed to keep her at home and for many months at a time, so long as she was still taking her treatment, all went well.

Dr Tom Sensky, a consultant psychiatrist at the West Middlesex University Hospi-



MEDICAL BRIEFING

tal, told a conference on schizophrenia at Beers in Belgium yesterday that there was overwhelming evidence of the benefits to patients of taking regular maintenance therapy, and that failure to do so substantially increased the risk of relapse.

Although all doctors are

convinced that psychiatric patients are the worst offenders when it comes to non-compliance (the medical term for leaving unopened or half-empty bottles of tablets in the bathroom cabinet) we, the doctors, are wrong. Dr Sensky's "studies" show that non-compliance is no greater

among people suffering from schizophrenia than among those with other chronic diseases. When, however, a paranoid schizophrenic fails to take treatment, the publicity that follows any relapse is rather greater than when a diabetic patient lapses into coma.

It is not surprising that schizophrenic patients are reluctant to take their treatment, and not all the blame can be attributed to lack of insight or other symptoms of the disease. Many of the drugs used to treat schizophrenia have

unpleasant side-effects, tolerated so long as the patient remembers the anxiety and worry the symptoms caused when they were florid, but unacceptable once time has erased their memory.

In Dr Sensky's opinion, winning the patient's co-operation in taking the drugs should be seen as part of a general strategy and, to this end, the patient's family must become involved. Patients should also be encouraged to see themselves as the experts in their own disease, to realise what is happening to them

and to appreciate the vulnerability of their personality, then to understand that medication is one of the ways in which this vulnerability can be reduced.

A major study into the results achieved by doctors who help patients and their relatives to understand each other, and the problems created by the disease, demonstrated that this approach produces much better compliance with treatment.

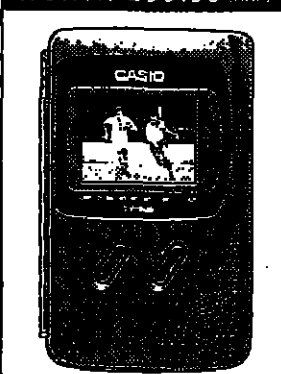
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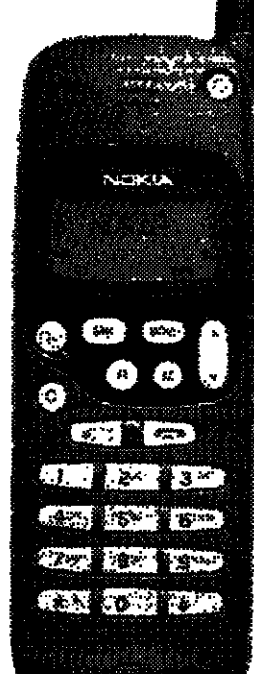
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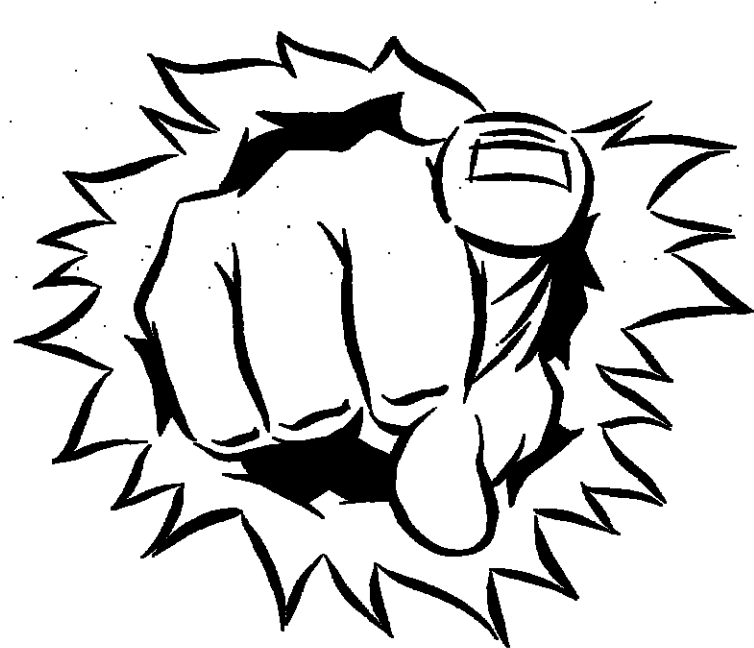
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Grandchildren of Sassoon died on brink of careers

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE two grandchildren of the war poet Siegfried Sassoon, who died in a car crash on the way home from a music festival, were on the threshold of successful artistic careers, friends said yesterday.

Tom Sassoon, 18, an actor, and his sister Isobel, 21, an artist, were among six young friends who died when their car crashed head-on into a van early on Sunday. The pair had walked to the festival on Saturday but accepted a lift for the short journey home to Frome, Somerset. Isobel's boyfriend, Stephen Stokes, 22, Melanie France, 17, Christopher Ashton, 19, and Charles Weale, 21, the driver, also died. Accident investigators are trying to establish why the car swerved across the carriageway.

Tom and Isobel were George Sassoon's children from his second marriage and lived with their mother, Susie. Mr Sassoon, the only son of the late war poet, was holidaying on the Isle of Mull with his third wife, Alison, at the weekend but immediately returned home to his flat in Sutton Veney.

Alison Sassoon said of her husband: "When you lose two of your children in one day it's too much. He's in a terrible state. We are still trying to come to terms with this."

Tom had recently won a place to study stage manage-



Siegfried Sassoon: poet who evoked horror of war

programme, and was very committed to the theatre. He was very popular with staff and pupils and we are saddened and devastated by his death."

One of Isobel's former teachers said that she had been a popular student who had constantly entertained staff and pupils. David Halls-worth, who taught her physics, said: "I will remember her for her amazing smile. She was very attractive, bright and popular with the other students. She worked hard and was very determined. She dreamed of being an artist."

Their deaths are another sad chapter in the history of the Sassoon family, who had traded their way to great wealth and social respectability in Victorian England. At their peak, the Sassoons were "the Rothschilds of the East", founders of a vast Indian commercial empire who consorted with royalty. Siegfried Sassoon's great uncle Reuben was Edward VII's closest friend, spending long periods at Sandringham.

Siegfried Sassoon, born in 1886, distinguished himself as an infantry officer in the Royal Welch Fusiliers in Flanders during the First World War, but was celebrated for his poignant war poetry, inspired by the horrors of warfare in the trenches. He lived for much of his life at Heytesbury House, a Grade II listed Georgian mansion in Wiltshire which he bought in 1933. But his last few years were spent apart from his wife and were dogged by feuds with people he had once counted among his closest friends, including his fellow poet Robert Graves and the literary pair Osbert and Edith Sitwell.

After his father's death in 1967, George Sassoon struggled to maintain the 52-room mansion. He was forced to sell it in 1994 to help to pay off Lloyd's debts of £500,000. He had already had to auction family heirlooms, and burglars stripped the house bare.



Richard Welander, right, prepares to remove the medieval casket from the 1921 cylinder, and later takes measurements of the casket



Light falls on legend of Robert the Bruce

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

ONE of the most potent symbols of Scotland's heritage was exposed to the high-tech gaze of the 20th century in Edinburgh yesterday.

On a laboratory table beneath harsh strip-lighting and fibre-optic probes, two scientists inched opened a lead cylinder to reveal an ancient medieval casket buried 650 years ago and thought to contain the embalmed heart of Scotland's legendary King, Robert the Bruce.

The 24-hour operation was the climax of five days of speculation, which began when archaeologists excavating the ruins of Melrose Abbey in the Borders dug up a lead container from a shallow trench. They knew that in 1921 their predecessors had excavated and reburied a 14th-century casket containing a mummified heart believed to be that of the hero of Bannockburn.

Richard Welander, Historic Scotland's conservator of artefacts, who eased the casket from the modern cylinder,



Robert the Bruce, victor of Bannockburn, and the inscribed copper plaque

said: "I am elated and exhausted. This is a point where history and archaeology meet. It is something to tell my grandchildren."

The casket will now be taken to a laboratory for dating tests and conservation work, but it will not be opened. When the tests are complete, it will be returned to Melrose Abbey and reburied. Doreen Grove, Historic Scotland's inspector of monu-

ments, said: "We know from the 1921 records that this casket contains a mummified heart and, as far as we know, Robert the Bruce's heart is the only one buried at Melrose." She said that current DNA tests on the human remains would not be accurate enough to identify the heart positively as that of the Bruce.

Earlier three holes had been drilled into the outer lead cylinder and a fibre-optic

probe placed inside to view the contents. The pictures relayed to television monitors disclosed a pale yellow object and a piece of paper. It was a humble hacksaw that was eventually used to remove one end of the lead tube. Then it took a further one and a quarter hours to remove the casket completely, together with the piece of paper.

What emerged was a pale yellow metal cone weighing

2lb and standing just 9 1/4 in high. The paper turned out to be wrapping for a copper plaque inscribed with a message from the 1921 archaeologists. It read: "The enclosed leaden casket, containing a heart, was found beneath Chapter House floor March 1921 and reburied by HM Office of Works."

Robert the Bruce's dying wish in 1329 was that his heart be cut out of his body and taken to the Holy Land by his friend, Sir James Douglas, who had fought with him at Bannockburn in 1314. But it never made it there. Legend has it that the heart got only as far as Spain, carried by Douglas in a lead cone-shaped casket and brandished to inspire crusaders fighting the Moors.

It is said that, during one battle, Douglas hurled the casket into the fray and dived in after it to his death. The casket was found on the battlefield and returned to Scotland to be buried at Melrose, 60 miles from where Bruce's body lies, in Dunfermline Abbey.



George Sassoon with Alison, his third wife

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Closure threat to hospital on day it opens

By RUSSELL JENKINS

THE first children's hospital to be built in England this century opened its doors yesterday under the threat of closure in a fresh round of NHS cost-cutting.

Derbyshire Children's Hospital, which cost £17.5 million to build and equip, boasts child-friendly services and replaces its austere, crumbling Victorian ancestor with a colourful, purpose-built complex. The new 77-bed hospital, which children helped to design, is under threat because of a £10 million funding crisis at

Southern Derbyshire Health Authority. One option to solve it is a proposal that would entail closing the hospital and the adjoining Derby City hospital incorporating the services on one site at the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary.

The crisis failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the new hospital's supporters, who have raised nearly £1.5 million through The Kite Appeal to realise a 34-year-old dream of replacing the old hospital. Liam Barry, aged seven, undergoing treatment for the rare genetic disorder Vater syndrome, officially

marked the opening when he and his brother James arrived by helicopter and transferred to a model electric car which they drove through a paper "Welcome" banner into the reception area.

Jim Lovett, its business manager, said that the hospital was "extremely optimistic" about the long-term future. "These proposals have gone out to general consultation. The reaction of the public will have a massive influence on what eventually is decided. We are confident that the hospital will stay open."

It took two years to build, has the

most advanced paediatric equipment in the country and can treat 35,000 patients a year. Ten patients were transferred by ambulance over the weekend from the old hospital and yesterday business was described as "hectic".

The old building in North Street, completed in 1877, was one of the last Victorian hospitals built specifically for children. The unwelcoming Nightingale wards had metal beds, each with its own coal fire. Derby City backs a trend to incorporate children's facilities into large adult hospitals where the

costly technology to combat cancers and other diseases are on hand.

Michael Thornton, chairman of The Kite Appeal, said that the dream had been to create the country's finest hospital for children. Design consultants went to schools and community groups to ask children what they wanted.

They demanded child-height reception desks, swinging hospital doors and bedroom windows that they could see through. They hated the meandering corridors of older NHS hospitals. They wanted the hospital to be an extension of the

playroom. The wards are painted with sea, shore and jungle themes. Toys are in abundance.

Patients will be allowed to drive themselves on the electric car into the operating theatre, decorated with a dolphin theme. James Kempton, secretary of the College of Paediatrics and Child Health, said: "It is very bright and cheerful and everything is the right size for children. The most important thing is that the children's hospital is close to the neo-natal wards, where babies can be born and treated in the early weeks on the same site."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man jailed for abusing boys in care

A social worker has been jailed for five years for abusing three boys in his care. Geoffrey Morris, 41, of Llandaff, Cardiff, indecently assaulted the boys, aged 12, 15 and 16, while working at a council-run home. Cardiff Crown Court was told that Morris molested one boy as his mother slept in the same room and assaulted another on a visit to his father's grave. He admitted two charges of indecency with a child and five of indecent assault.

Drug killing

Mark Sayer, a 22-year-old drug dealer, was killed when he opened his door to a gunman, who also shot dead his dog. The killer then walked down two streets in Redcar to his getaway car, police said.

Change of note

The Bank of England has issued a reminder that old-style £50 notes, featuring Sir Christopher Wren, cease to be legal tender from September 20. The newer note, showing Sir John Houblon and a silver rose, is harder to forge.

Robbery mix-up

A long-haired antiques dealer was knocked out and robbed by a thug who mistook him for a woman. He had pulled off the M4 near Chippenham to check a tyre when a van pulled up and someone said: "Are you all right love?"

IRA haul found

Detectives hunting IRA bombers have uncovered nearly £1 million of stolen property. The goods, including drugs, cars and medical equipment, were found in a series of raids on lock-up garages in south London.

Romanians held

Four men and a woman, all believed to be illegal immigrants from Romania, were arrested after they were seen acting suspiciously near the ferry terminal in Portsmouth. They were later questioned by immigration officials.

Woman raped

A woman was raped in Dudley after chasing a mugger who stole her handbag. The 51-year-old woman pursued the thief for about 200 yards before he turned, punched her repeatedly in the face and raped her.

Runner's rescue

Eddie Crispin, 34, who was out running, plunged into the sea at Southsea to rescue Richard Compton, 65, and Melvin Greenstreet, 41, after hearing cries for help. They had been in the water for 11 hours after their boat sank.

Parents bombed in row between hardline loyalists

By NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

AN ELDERLY couple who narrowly escaped injury when a bomb was thrown through their living-room window in Belfast have blamed the attack on loyalist paramilitaries who have threatened to kill their son.

Alex Kerr, 60, and his wife, June, 61, were in the room watching television at the time of the attack. They insisted yesterday that the bombers would not force them from their home in the Finaghy area of the city.

The Combined Loyalist Military Command threatened last week to kill Alex Kerr Jr and Billy Wright, two hardline loyalists, unless they left Northern Ireland within 72 hours. Both have opposed the current loyalist ceasefire, declared in October 1994.

Mr Kerr, 35, who is on remand in prison facing terrorist charges, was told to leave the Province as soon as he was released. Mr Wright is remaining in his home town of Portadown, Co. Armagh, in defiance of the threat.

Mr Kerr Sr and his wife were in no doubt that the loyalist command had attacked them because they could not reach their son. Mr Kerr said: "They couldn't get my son, they couldn't get Billy Wright. So they went for an easy target. The people who came here came to murder our family."

The couple were treated in hospital for shock. Mr Kerr said: "My wife had just walked back into the living

room. As soon as she sat down the whole place just exploded. If she had been standing up she would have been dead."

Within hours of the attack, on Sunday, their son telephoned them from Maghera Prison, Co. Down, where he is being held in isolation for his own safety. Mr Kerr Sr said that his son was very upset by the attack, which he blamed on himself.

Mr Kerr Jr is facing charges of organising a meeting on behalf of a paramilitary group at Annahilt last month. At the weekend he condemned the threat against him, but said that he was prepared to die for his political beliefs. In a statement smuggled to a newspaper from the prison, he said: "If I am to be accused of treason and threatened with summary execution for pointing out that which I believe to be true, then so be it."

He launched a scathing attack on the Progressive Unionist Party, the political wing of the UDA. He said: "The dogs in the street know that the process which they are so wrapped up in is designed to weaken the Union."

Mr Kerr was expelled from the UDA in 1994 during an internal dispute after the loyalist ceasefire was declared.

David Ervine, the Progressive Unionists' main spokesman, said that the loyalist command had not launched the attack on the Kerr family.



Heavyweight contenders from the three main parties measured up for a parliamentary sponsored slim yesterday. Labour's Bruce George, left, Charles Kennedy of the Liberal Democrats, centre, and the Tory Michael Mates will be checked weekly in the ten-week contest. The early favourite was Mr George, the bulkiest entrant at 20 stone, who described himself as a serial eater who had not tried dieting for 20 years

Drunkenness a state of mind

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE idea that a person's alcohol consumption may be determined by the brain chemical serotonin is supported by an American scientific team's experiments on genetically engineered mice.

The researchers found that mice lacking the ability to create serotonin willingly drank more alcohol but appeared to get less drunk than

normal mice. Earlier work has shown that violent alcoholics have lowered levels of serotonin, and that serotonin-enhancing drugs reduce the amount that they drink.

A team led by Dr John Crabbe of Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland then offered the mice alcohol and watched them binge. The mutant mice typically drank twice as much as other mice, readily drinking mixtures of up to 20 per cent

ethanol in water, which is roughly equivalent to a whisky and water.

The scientists report in *Nature Genetics* that they compared the unsteadiness of the mutant and the wild-type mice by putting them in a cage with a mesh floor and observing the number of times their paws went through the mesh and made contact with a steel plate below. Although both types showed a loss of co-ordination after drinking, it was much smaller in the mutant mice.

Serotonin is strongly linked to mood. Low levels have been found in violent men, and the mutant mice used in the experiments were also unusually aggressive. But the findings do not imply that alcoholism or violence in humans is genetically determined. Research has shown that life experience, such as a disturbed childhood, can have profound effects on serotonin levels.

Scientists identify adult diabetes gene

By OUR SCIENCE EDITOR

SCIENTISTS have discovered a gene involved in the development of adult diabetes, a disease affecting more than 100 million people worldwide.

A team from the Whitehead Institute for Medical Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts, studied 26 families from an isolated region of Finland. They included 120 people who had developed diabetes late in life and 97 who had not.

By searching the DNA of all 217 people, the team found differences on chromosome 12 which they believe is the gene causing a predisposition to a form of diabetes that tends to develop in people in their fifties.

The condition is usually controlled by diet and does not require daily insulin injections. The team, which reports the finding in *Nature Genet-*

ics, hopes that the discovery might help to explain how the disease develops and provide improved treatment.

A company developing a way of giving diabetes insulin by mouth has reported progress. Cortec said that an oral formula introduced into the small intestine by tube raised the blood plasma level of insulin. An attempt is being made to reproduce the effect using tablets. Patients with insulin-dependent diabetes at present need daily injections.

Michael Flynn, head of Cortec International, based in Isleworth, west London, said the results were encouraging and indicated that an oral insulin product might be made. However, he added that there were a number of steps to be taken before that could happen.

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Working title for 'insulted casuals'

By A STAFF REPORTER

A CHANGE of image beckoned yesterday for Britain's growing ranks of temporary staff. Management consultants said they should now be known as "complementary workers".

In an age where the personnel department has become a matter of human resources and the canteen has become the staff restaurant, the latest name change is intended to ditch the image of "temps" and "casuals" as the also-rans of the workplace.

In a report commissioned by the employment agency Manpower, the consultants Corfield Wright said that calling someone a temp when they were really an implant or an outsource was insulting. The term "casual" hardly conveyed the full weight of the role's "interdependent relationship" and "strategic flexibility". The report is supported by BT, IBM, American Express, Boots, NatWest, Rank Xerox, the BBC, Royal Hospitals NHS Trust and a handful of trade unions.

Temporary staff now make up 7.7 per cent of Britain's workforce, largely due to the recession and firms being unwilling to keep as many permanent staff. Iain Robertson, the Manpower director, said: "This sort of working is here to stay."

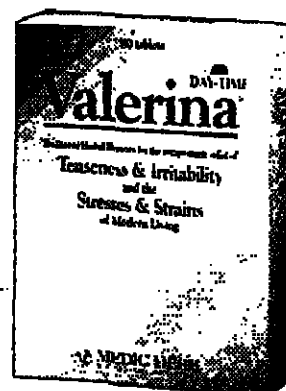
Opponents claim that the number of "complementary" staff has grown by 25 per cent since 1992 because companies get them cheaper and do not have to offer them the same job security and benefits as permanent workers.



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Kurdish group says it was forced to call on Baghdad after US ignored pleas for help

Puzzle for West over right reply to Saddam

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

STRATEGY

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein's weekend excursion into Arbil was carefully designed to boost his image and confound the West, which has been left struggling to find an appropriate response.

By seizing the city from the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, a faction supported by Iran, Saddam's move had even coincided with certain Western interests which are opposed to Iran's growing influence in northern Iraq, diplomats said.

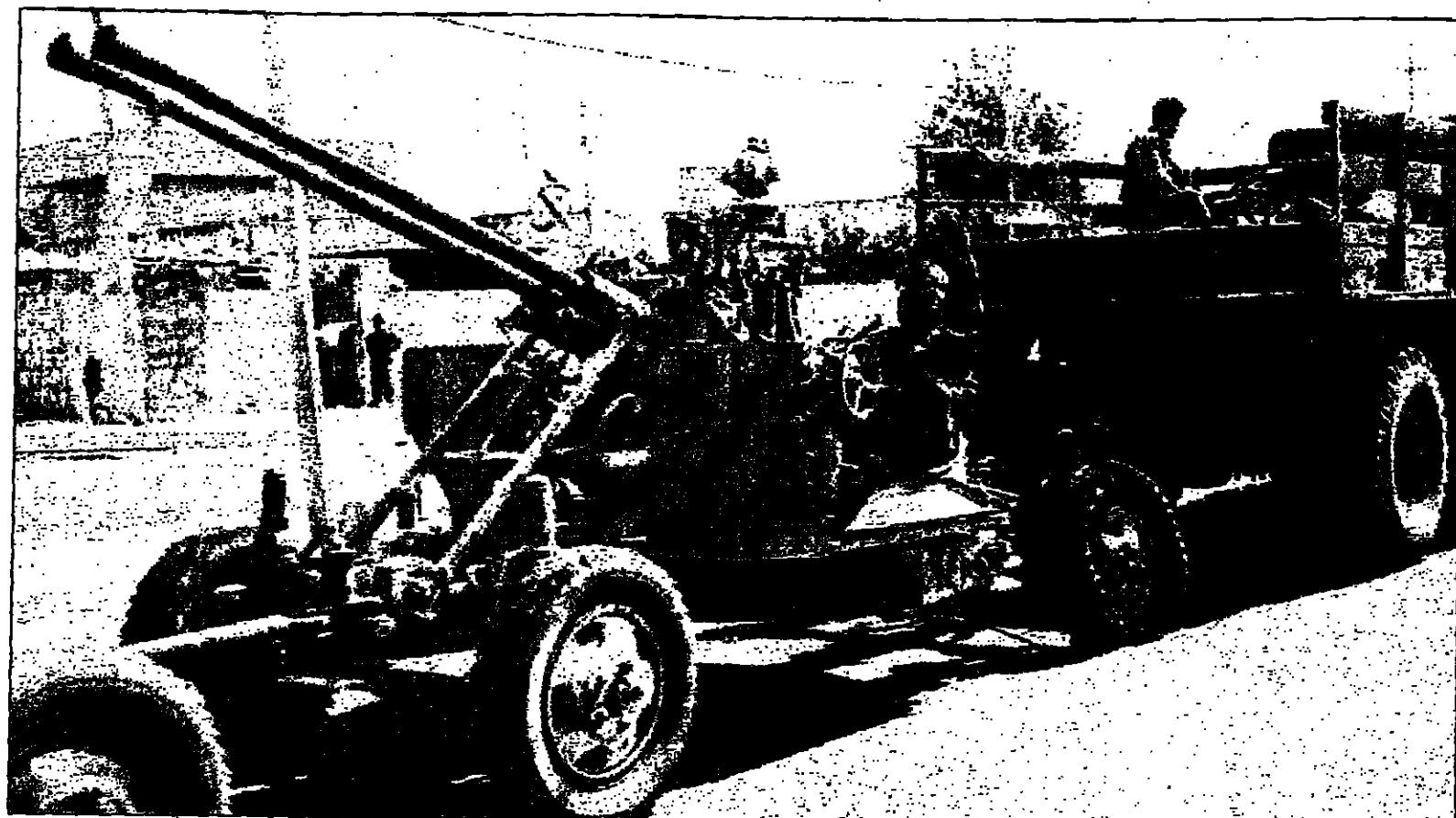
"So far, apart from the PUK, Iran is the real loser in this," an Arab envoy said. "The problem is... Saddam seems to be the winner. His forces have pulled out of the safe haven and the legal waters were already muddled because, unlike the invasion of Kuwait, they were operating inside Iraqi territory."

If Saddam keeps his forces out of the safe area, allied military attacks might be considered too harsh and economic moves may do more damage to the Iraqi people than to their Government, he added. The suspension of a United Nations oil-for-food deal, due to begin this month,

was also unlikely to upset the Iraqi leader because it was to be monitored by hundreds of UN observers whose presence he feared.

Arbil was left under the nominal control of the rival Kurdistan Democratic Party whose leader, Massoud Barzani, has a history of being pro-American. The KDP justified its collusion with Saddam by saying its pleas for American support to counter Iran's presence in PUK-held areas went unheeded. Iran, which hoped to ensure any future regime in Baghdad would not be pro-American, has used the power vacuum in northern Iraq to extend its influence through a wide network of humanitarian missions and intelligence bureaux.

Mr Barzani is also looked upon favourably by Washington's ally, Turkey, which has successfully sought his co-operation in curbing Turkey's Kurdish separatist rebels who launch cross-border raids from bases inside northern Iraq. Ankara has also been encouraged by Mr Barzani's



A Kurdistan Democratic Party fighter celebrates the capture of Arbil as he arrives in Salahuddin yesterday on a gun taken during fighting

refusal to call for an independent Kurdish state in northern Iraq which it fears would encourage the ambitions of its own Kurds. Mr Barzani has always supported the notion of a federal democratic Iraq.

"Saddam must realise the wise thing for him is to pull out of Kurdistan now and leave Barzani in effective control of the north," an Iraqi dissident living in Jordan said. "Although Saddam will leave his secret police in the city, Barzani will never be his puppet. They can reach some accommodation that could bring a degree of stability to

northern Iraq. How can America oppose that?"

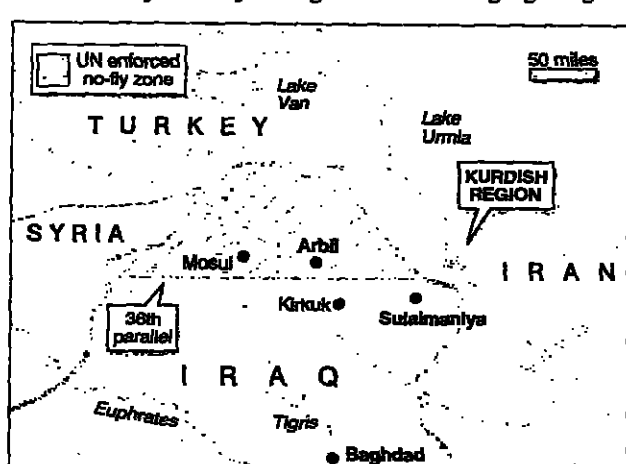
The fact that there has been no mass exodus of refugees from Arbil suggested that most residents were confident that the KDP was in control of the city, UN sources said. However, Iraqi opposition groups claimed that Saddam's secret police had carried out mass executions and atrocities in the city. "If they thought Saddam was going to hold on to Arbil, they would have fled," one UN source said.

A European diplomat in Jordan said that, despite the setback to Iran, "there is still

an overwhelming need to show Saddam he cannot challenge the Gulf War allies with total impunity. There will be a response. We do want to see accommodation between the Kurds and Baghdad, but it is hard to be positive about it when the ruler in Baghdad is Saddam Hussein."

When the allies established the Kurdish safe area after the Gulf War, they hoped it would become the base for different opposition groups to launch a concerted campaign against Saddam.

Leading article, page 15



Dole says Clinton fooled by Iraqi military trickery

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

AMERICA

BOB DOLE ripped into President Clinton's handling of the Iraq crisis amid evidence yesterday that the Pentagon had been caught short by President Saddam Hussein's attack on Arbil.

To the irritation of the White House, Mr Dole said it should be no surprise that Iraqi troops stormed the UN safe area for Kurds in northern Iraq. "Saddam has been testing American leadership and finding it lacking," the Republican presidential challenger said to applause at the National Guard Association convention in Washington.

He ridiculed Al Gore, the Vice-President, for saying the situation needed to be studied before any action was taken. "We don't need to analyse Saddam's actions, we need to condemn them," Mr Dole

denounced Mr Clinton for allowing the split in the Kurdish community to occur, for relaxing Iraqi oil sanctions so that Baghdad could buy food, and for ignoring warnings that Saddam might invade the north.

On this last issue, Pentagon officials admitted that American intelligence did underestimate the size and intention of troop movements when they were first seen by allied air patrols and reconnaissance satellites just over a week ago. Intelligence officials were fooled into thinking that the movements were routine training by only a few thousand troops. But Saddam reinforced them to between 30,000 and 40,000 under cover of darkness.

Mr Dole's fellow Republicans in Congress were also

asking why Washington did not have more notice of the attack. John Warner, a senator on the armed services committee, wanted to know why the Administration had failed to alert America's allies before Saddam's troops crossed the 36th parallel.

Mr Dole runs the risk of annoying voters by criticising the President over his handling of an overseas crisis to make political points in the run-up to the election. Certainly his glib remarks were roundly attacked by Leon Panetta, White House chief of staff, who said electioneering should end at the water's edge so that America could speak to Saddam with one voice.

Last night the Administration was silent on what its response would be, whether military or political. The ambiguity was deliberate, so as not to forewarn Saddam about what may be pending.

Urgent call for talks with allies

BY MICHAEL BINYON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN called yesterday for urgent talks with its allies, especially France and the United States, over the Iraqi incursion into Arbil.

Speaking during a visit to Japan, Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, refused to speculate on what measures

BRITAIN

Britain might take against Iraq. Various ideas were being considered, he said.

Mr Rifkind indicated that British aircraft may be used against President Saddam Hussein in northern Iraq, but he said it was unlikely that British troops would be sent in. Six Tornados based at Incirlik, on the Turkish-Syrian border, are said to be standing by.

Shamir tells of failed effort to unite feuding factions

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL

IN AN attempt to undermine President Saddam Hussein's drive to boost his proxy control over the northern Kurdish enclave, Israeli representatives have since the 1991 Gulf War held secret contacts with the two contending Iraqi Kurdish factions.

The disclosure of the shadowy but abortive mediation talks was made yesterday by the Tel Aviv paper *Haaretz*, which secured confirmation from Yitzhak Shamir, the former right-wing Likud Prime Minister, that he ordered the opening of the contacts. These were later continued under the Labour Government of Yitzhak Rabin which came to power in 1992.

Mr Shamir, now in retirement in Jerusalem, said that Israel tried to mediate differences between the two factions, the Patriotic Union of

Kurdistan, led by Jalal Talabani, and the Democratic Kurdistan Party, led by Masoud Barzani, but that these endeavours had failed.

"To my regret," the former Prime Minister said, "no serious political connection, like the one which obtained through the 1960s and 70s, until Henry Kissinger 'sold' the Kurds, was created."

Mr Shamir was referring to a deal worked out by the then United States Secretary of State, according to which America forced the Shah of Iran to desist from providing support to the Kurdish rebellion. Because of this policy, the military assistance which Israel had been offering the Kurdish forces was brought to a halt.

Haaretz revealed that the secret contacts had been aimed at capitalising on the

allied victory in the Gulf War and the establishment of a safe area in northern Iraq for the benefit of Israel, which had kept out of the Gulf conflict despite being hit by nearly 40 Scud missiles fired at random civilian targets from inside Iraq.

In addition to mediation, the Israeli efforts were also intended to boost contact with declared enemies of Saddam. *Haaretz* said that the failed attempts at mediation were also carried out by US officials, mainly CIA agents, who also gave Israel the green light for its attempts at secret meetings in a number of locations, including London and Paris.

These CIA officials made great efforts, in autonomous Kurdish areas and also in Europe and America, the paper said. "But the clan and tribe-based hostility which has separated the two groups for a number of years proved to be too strong."

Egyptian ultimatum for Israel

Jerusalem: Egypt issued a three-week ultimatum yesterday to the Israeli Government to begin implementing key elements of the 1993 peace accord with the Palestinians or face cancellation of an important Middle East economic conference planned for November in Cairo (Christopher Walker writes).

A senior Israeli government official dismissed the move as "an unfortunate threat which can only exacerbate tensions in the region". The conference was designed to underline the "peace dividend" by helping Israel to integrate into the Arab world.

Bribery alleged in Beirut poll

Beirut: The billionaire Prime Minister, Rafik al-Hariri, and his supporters won a resounding victory in the third round of Lebanon's parliamentary elections, winning 14 of Beirut's 19 seats, according to unofficial results. The vote on Sunday was marred by charges of widespread abuses, including the bribery of voters by Mr Hariri's representatives witnessed by a reporter. Official results were expected soon. (Reuters)

Spanish amnesty for immigrants

Madrid: Jaime Mayor Oreja, the Spanish Interior Minister, said that more than 24,000 illegal immigrants, the majority Moroccan, will be given residency papers under a one-off regularisation programme which ran between April in August. In total, 24,389 illegal immigrants applied. The scheme is in marked contrast to the tough anti-immigration line adopted by France. (AFP)

Berlin palace gate rammed

Berlin: A man rammed his Volkswagen Golf through the iron gate of the German presidential Bellevue palace here and demanded to talk to President Herzog, police said. The 34-year-old driver drove 50 yards past security guards up to the palace portal, where he was arrested. The President slept through it all. (AP)

Détente ahoy

Pusan, South Korea: Waving their white caps in greeting, South Korean sailors welcomed two Japanese warships into port — the first to visit since the Second World War — signalling warmer ties between the two Asian adversaries. (Reuters)

Cave buries Neanderthal man's brutish image

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

NEANDERTHAL man was rather a civilised creature, according to intriguing evidence uncovered by a team of Spanish archaeologists at Capellades, 35 miles northeast of Barcelona.

The discovery, by scientists from Tarragona's Rovira i Virgili University, should lay to rest the popular view of the Neanderthal as a skulking brute who did little else but bane to death, and then feast on the other mammals who lived alongside him. Equally, it should strengthen the view that "modern man" — *Homo sapiens* — was not the product of "an evolutionary leap", as many archaeologists still

believe, but only a gentle step up the ladder from the much maligned Neanderthal.

The key to the Spanish archaeologists' thesis lies in 15 furnaces, recently unearthed, dating back 53,000 years. The team, led by Professor Eudald Carbonell, believes that these furnaces are proof that Neanderthal man possessed a skill level far more advanced than he has so far been given credit for.

Archaeologists have known that Neanderthal man used fire extensively, as there is evidence of ash and scorched earth at most sites corresponding to his period. Yet the furnaces at Capellades are of a hitherto unknown technological dimension, with each serving a different function

according to its size. Some were used as ovens for cooking, others as hearths to generate heat. Many served as rudimentary blast furnaces to build and shape tools and utensils. The team has found an astonishing variety of stone and bone tools neatly arranged by the furnaces, as well as the most extensive traces of wooden utensils unearthed at a Neanderthal site.

This last discovery has been described as "remarkable", as the perishable nature of wood has meant that little evidence survives of its use in prehistoric times. According to Manuel Vaquer, a member of Professor Carbonell's team, the furnaces "give us an important insight into how Neanderthal man used the space around

him, of how he arranged his community life". Señor Vaquer said: "The site at Capellades tells us that he organised his life to a great extent around these furnaces, suggesting that he was spatially settled to a high degree. We believe that the Neanderthals had, by the Middle Paleolithic Age, begun actively to adapt their surroundings to their own needs."

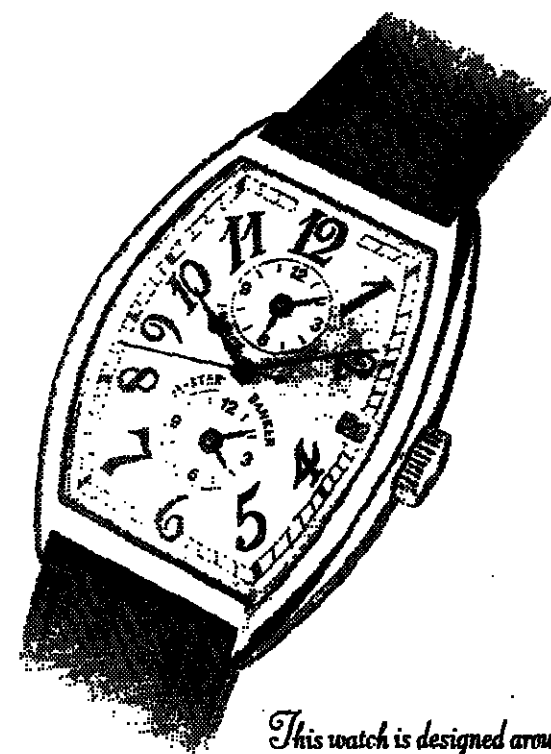
More than half of the Capellades site is still to be studied. Some of it dates back more than 80,000 years. The site, the most important Neanderthal "case study" in Europe, is believed by experts to match the caves of as-Skhal on Mount Carmel and Jabal Qafzah in Galilee for the richness of its archaeological treasures.

Prehistoric pine trees go on sale

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

COMING soon to a garden centre near you — the Jurassic tree. Saplings from Australia's Wollemi Pine, which is linked to a species at least 144 million years old, have gone on display at Sydney's Royal Botanic Gardens before being offered for sale in nurseries here and, eventually, in Britain.

A handful of the rare seedlings will be sent to Kew Gardens in London and Edinburgh's Botanic Gardens next year prior to the plant's commercial exploitation. The Wollemi Pine, so rare that experts liken it to finding a surviving dinosaur, was discovered in an isolated gorge in bushland in the Blue



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Colombia fights back as guerrillas launch fiercest raids in decades



Pacho Herrera, centre, with his lawyer and a soldier

By GABRIELLA GAMINI
SOUTH AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

COLOMBIA'S security forces launched a counter-offensive yesterday against the worst wave of violence unleashed by left-wing guerrillas in 40 years, in which at least 100 people have been killed.

More than 50,000 soldiers were deployed to rainforest areas of south-east Colombia, where in the past two days rebels of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the National Liberation Army (ELN) have launched their most concerted offensive in decades.

Since late on Saturday guerrillas have attacked 26 villages across 13

states, destroying military bases, police stations and public buildings. Government officials said that the people killed were mainly members of the security forces and rebels, but included 20 civilians.

The worst attack was on Sunday, when 500 FARC rebels surrounded the Las Delicias army base in Putumayo state, burnt alive the soldiers they captured, and forced others to walk over minefields. Officials say that 27 conscripts were killed in the surprise attack on the remote army base surrounded by jungle.

Left-wing rebel activity was at its height in Colombia in the 1970s, as in much of South America, but it had

subsided in past decades to occasional skirmishes in remote areas. The recent co-ordinated offensive appears to be in retaliation for a recent government clampdown on peasants who grow the coca leaf that is the basis of cocaine.

President Samper's Government has come under increasing international pressure in the past month to tackle the production of drugs and has launched a crop-eradication programme in coca-growing areas, triggering violent protests by campesinos (peasants) who refuse to give up their lucrative crop.

The FARC and ELN seem to have taken up the coca-growers' cause and are concentrating their attacks in the

rainforest region which is where most of the coca is grown and most of the cocaine produced. There is concern that rebel groups are being funded by drug cartels to act as their "protection armies".

"The civil war which we had hoped was a thing of the past is rapidly reviving," General Jorge Arturo Pinceda, chief of the national police, said.

President Samper said yesterday that his Government would not give way to pressure from rebels and said that the campaign to destroy coca plantations would continue. Senior Samper has been under increasing pressure for reform in the past year, a year in which he has faced allegations

that he accepted donations from the Cali cartel to fund his 1994 election campaign. His security forces have intensified their anti-drugs campaign, especially against the Cali cartel which controls 80 per cent of the world's cocaine traffic.

As the violence in the southeast of the country worsened yesterday, the Government failed to make much of the news that the last of the top seven Cali drug cartel bosses had surrendered to the authorities. Helmer Herrera Buitrago, 45, better known as Pacho Herrera, is believed to have given himself up in the hope that he can negotiate a reduced jail sentence.

Brussels 'tried to keep lid on BSE affair'

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission scrambled yesterday to defend itself against disclosures indicating that it had sought for years to play down the impact of "mad cow" disease in order to protect the beef market.

The publication of exchanges between senior officials reopened allegations of a concerted cover-up on the impact of BSE as the European Parliament opens an inquiry in Brussels today on the Commission's handling of the affair. The Commission said yesterday that it had nothing to hide, but the latest disclosures, by a French newspaper, sparked anger in Germany and France.

Philippe de Villiers, the French conservative politician and ally of Sir James Goldsmith, said the documents showed the Commission sought "at any price to keep information from consumers on the dangers of BSE".

The documents, mainly from 1993, appeared to conflict with assertions last July by

Jacques Santer, President of the Commission, that a previous leak was a gross misrepresentation of European Union policy by a solitary official.

In a potentially damaging document, published by *Liberation*, Guy Legras, the French chief of the Commission's farm directorate, wrote in March 1993 to the head of the EU internal market directorate, asking him to drop a proposal to hold a joint committee meeting on the possible spread of BSE to human beings. "In my experience, all discussion of BSE inevitably causes problems in the meat market," he wrote, according to the facsimile of the memorandum.

"Last January we had an alarm after a German television broadcast and it was thanks to prudence and discretion that we were able, for the moment, to avoid a panic... To keep the public reassured, it is vital that we ourselves should not provoke a reopening of the debate. If you can help me, it would be wise to

avoid this discussion in the scientific committee."

At the time France had banned beef products from baby food. M Legras offered his colleague a "discreet" way of banning its use in Europe to avoid drawing public attention. *Liberation* also published a note from October 1993 in which a senior aide to René Steichen, then farm commissioner, asked Brian Marchant, the Commission official overseeing the BSE affair, to point out to the Germans "the political risks of making a fuss".

Mr Santer's spokesman said yesterday that the Commission had nothing new to say on the subject. However, he avoided an opportunity to voice full backing for M Legras. Asked if Mr Santer had confidence in him, the spokesman said: "At the moment there is no reason to say anything but 'yes'." Officials said the documents did no more than show that the Commission wanted to avoid

unnecessary panic among consumers.

However, *Liberation* also said yesterday that it had information confirming that Keith Meldrum, the chief veterinary officer and Britain's representative on the standing veterinary committee, had been advised at the time not to put BSE on the committee's agenda. Last night Mr Meldrum said: "No request was ever made to me or to the Government to suppress information, or to keep anything under wraps, and we would not have agreed to do so had such a request been made."

This dispute over the Commission's handling of BSE is certain to undermine further confidence in its efforts to supervise the eradication of BSE in Britain and gradually lift the ban on British beef. The veterinary committee meets on Friday to consider whether to revise the slaughter plan in the light of evidence that BSE can be transmitted from cow to calf.



Amy Carter, daughter of former President Carter, and her new husband Jim Wentzel at their wedding and, below, with her dog Grits at the White House in 1977

Private wedding for Amy Carter

Washington: Former President Jimmy Carter's daughter Amy, 28, exchanged marriage vows with James Wentzel, 27, in a private ceremony near the former First Family's home in Plains, Georgia.

"We are all happy. The bride and groom are now husband and wife," Mr Carter said after the 15-minute service on Sunday at the Pond House, where his late mother, Lillian, used to fish.

Mr Wentzel is a computer consultant at the University of New Orleans. The bride is working on her master's degree in art history at Tulane University. She will keep her maiden name.



China offers Pretoria £11bn investment

FROM R.W. JOHNSON
IN JOHANNESBURG

THE fierce diplomatic battle over South Africa's recognition of Taiwan has taken an extraordinary new twist with the announcement that China is to invest \$18 billion (£11 billion) in South Africa to build "Dragon City", a complex of 500 factories.

Such an investment, which would create 300,000 jobs near Potchefstroom and see the immigration of 50,000 Chinese workers, would be the biggest investment made by the Chinese anywhere in the world and would put Peking on a par with Britain as the largest foreign investor in

South Africa. China said yesterday it was impossible for South Africa to develop ties with China as long as it had diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

President Mandela said last week his country would maintain diplomatic relations with Taiwan, but wanted to improve relations with China as well. "Mandela's speech went so far as to assert that Taiwan is a 'country' and advocate 'dual recognition'," the Xinhua news agency quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman, Shen Guofang, as saying.

"If South Africa persists in this manner, it will be impossible for it to realise the

normalisation of state relations with China," Mr Shen said.

It was during the apartheid years of isolation, as American companies such as IBM disinvested, that South Africa took its chance and quickly became South Africa's seventh biggest trading partner and investor, opening a string of factories in rural areas. When the ANC was legalised, Taiwan made such generous donations to the party that President Mandela resisted all pressures to cease recognition of the Taipei Government.

The Taiwanese, who boast of having already created 65,000 jobs in South Africa,

have now sent a large trade delegation here, headed by the country's Vice-President, Li Teh-hsu, which is busy spreading largesse. Mr Li has promised a \$780 million investment in a new petrochemical industry and pledged to increase trade.

President Mandela has a dogged loyalty to his friends and has repeatedly insisted that South Africa will maintain its links with Taiwan and would like to recognise both Chinas, a suggestion firmly rebuffed by Peking.

Most analysts view Mandela's position as naive, pointing out that even the US was forced to withdraw recognition from Taiwan.

Guevara 'smear' on left-wing writer

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

REGIS DEBRAY, the French intellectual who fomented Marxist revolution alongside Ernesto "Che" Guevara in the 1960s, has accused the Cuban Government of launching a smear campaign against him, after the daughter of the legendary guerrilla leader claimed that the Frenchman was directly responsible for her father's death.

M. Debray, now 56, was imprisoned by the Bolivian Army in April 1967, just six months before Guevara was captured and shot by the Bolivian forces.

Aleida Guevara, 35, a paediatrician living in Cuba and one of Guevara's five children, told an Argentine newspaper M. Debray had her father's blood on his hands because he "talked more than necessary" after his arrest.

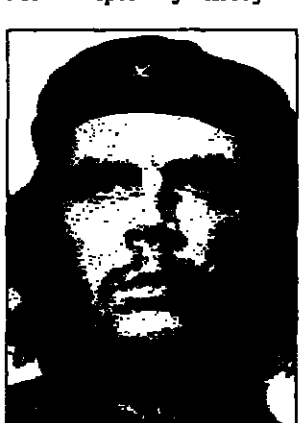
M. Debray, who was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment in Bolivia but was released in 1971 to pursue a highly successful career as a writer and political adviser in France, yesterday claimed that the accusations were co-ordinated by Havana.

"The Cuban administration is desperate because it believes, wrongly, that I am encouraging a resistance network from afar," M. Debray said. "Aleida Guevara is working to order... this is the

start of a long-term campaign."

M. Debray began visiting Cuba as a radical philosophy student in 1961 and became a close confidant of Fidel Castro and Guevara. The six weeks he spent in Guevara's mountain guerrilla camp in Bolivia and subsequent imprisonment elevated him to a unique status in Communist mythology. But he later broke from the regime and this year published a book with an unfavourable portrait of the Cuban leader.

Señora Guevara is "a devotee" of the Communist regime and married to a member of the Cuban security services, *Le Monde* reported yesterday.



Che Guevara: guerrilla hero killed in Bolivia

Austrians held in sex case

Vienna: Austrian police are holding four men on suspicion of producing child pornography in an international child prostitution ring based in Central Europe.

One of the suspects, a 49-year-old Austrian from Salzburg, was arrested on Saturday and is being held pending further investigation, police said.

Three others, aged between 40 and 51 and based in Vienna, were arrested last week and also remain in detention pending investigation. Two are Austrian citizens, one born in Slovakia and the other in the Czech Republic. The third is Polish.

Last week Vice Squad officers seized boxes of videos and other pornographic material from the home of one of the four suspects. The police said that the search for others involved in the child sex trade ring could spill over into Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Germany.

They declined to comment on whether there was any connection between the arrests and the present Belgian child sex scandal.

The sex scandals have shocked Austrians, already troubled by last week's disclosure of another alleged sex case in Linz involving the abuse of refugee children as young as four. (Reuters)

Perot stands alone as support slides

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

ROSS PEROT launched his latest campaign for the presidency with a 30-minute televised "infomercial", but something was missing from the ticket: a running-mate.

There was also a big difference from the Texan billionaire's 1992 campaign. This time he has accepted \$29 million (£18.6 million) in federal funds, based on the 19 million votes he garnered four years ago. That means he can put in no more than \$500,000 from his own pocket. Last time he spent \$70 million (£45 million) of his considerable fortune to challenge the two-party status quo.

Mr Perot is such a one-man show that finding anyone to run with him on his Reform Party ticket is posing a problem. He is so dominant that it will be difficult to convince any politician that they have anything to gain as his subordinate, said Earl Black, a political scientist at Rice University in Texas.

One drop-out is Richard Lamm, a former Governor of Colorado, who challenged Mr Perot in the Reform Party's national primary. Mr Lamm says he not only has no interest in running, he will not even support Mr Perot.

Potential candidates who turned down Mr Perot included Marcy Kaptur, a Democrat

congresswoman, and Linda Smith, a Republican congresswoman. James Campbell, Mr Perot's former boss at IBM, was listed as vice-president on Reform Party documents but he has no interest in the job. Nor does Mr Perot's running-mate in the 1992 election, James Stockdale, a retired vice-admiral and former Vietnam prisoner of war, said: "I wish him well, but I want Bob Dole to be President."

Mr Perot's first "infomercial" was the familiar mixture of tedious charts and homespun metaphors intended to prove that the Democratic and Republican parties are hostage to special interests and are "driving America into bankruptcy".

The same message drew 19 per cent of the vote in 1992, but now Mr Perot is registering less than 10 per cent in the polls. His ratings are so low that the bipartisan commission organising presidential debates says he lacks any realistic chance of being elected and wants to reject his request to be allowed on the same stage as Mr Dole and President Clinton.



Maskhadov: "We could not trust the Russians"

Chechen victor doubts if pact can survive

FROM ANTHONY LOYD
IN GROZNY

ASLAN MASKHADOV, commander of the Chechen guerrilla army and the man most responsible for the Russians' battlefield humiliations, smiles just once as he marks the latest Russian positions on the map of Grozny.

After three days without sleep, culminating in an apparent deal on Saturday with the Kremlin's special envoy, General Aleksandr Lebed, he looks exhausted. Away from the jubilant public scenes that greeted the conclusion of his latest agreement with the Russians, billed by General Lebed as the one that "ends the war with Chechnya", he seems despondent about the chances of the Russian military honouring its word and leaving his country.

But the map amuses him. Across its furthest southern line, delineating a tiny sliver of the city, are faded markings. In February last year, in a basement in southern Grozny, all but surrounded by Russian forces and under heavy bombardment, Colonel Maskhadov drew those positions on my map to show the overwhelming disposition of his enemies and the desperate military situation he faced.

Later that night, facing renewed and massive attack, he and his headquarters group had left the falling city in small bands. I remember well the flames and smoke: the Chechen fighters hiding in the snow as a tank rumbled past. "The Russians are little children if they think we shall stop fighting now," Colonel Maskhadov had said then. "We shall not stop until they leave."

Now he draws new markings on the same map. They are as tiny and inconsequential as the ones before: isolated blocks surrounded and alone. But these are Russian positions, not Chechen: all that are left after Colonel Maskhadov's lightning attack last month retook and held Grozny. By Saturday, according to the deal he agreed with General Lebed, they too will have gone from the city. Maybe.

Colonel Maskhadov, 46, has deep reservations about the prospects for peace and appears far from convinced that the fighting has ended. "Lebed is new to the political situation," he says. "The Russians that dealt with us before were liars and we could not trust them. Maybe Lebed is different."

"Our victory so far is given to us first by Allah, then by our guerrilla tactics and thirdly by our fighters. If Lebed does all he says he will, then there may be time for peace. It is a big if."

THE TIMES DILLONS FORUM

Tony Blair

New Britain
— my vision
of a young
country



READERS are invited to a forum where Tony Blair, the leader of the Labour Party since May 1994, will set out his political vision and priorities for a new Britain. The audience will have the opportunity to question Mr Blair's views on a raft of policy areas, from taxation to the minimum wage, the National Health Service to education. Chaired by Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, the forum marks the publication of Mr Blair's book, *New Britain: My Vision of a Young Country* (Fourth Estate, £8.99), and will be at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1, on Thursday, September 19 at 7.30pm. Tickets at £10 (£7.50 concessions) include £2 off the price of Mr Blair's book and are available by telephoning 0171-467 1613, by faxing the coupon below to 0171-467 1690, or by sending the coupon with your remittance to Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1E 6EQ, where tickets can also be bought.

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Cult leader ordered to pay £4.8m

Tokyo: Shoko Asahara, the cult leader, and two senior followers were ordered yesterday to pay nearly £4,800,000 in damages to victims of the nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway last year.

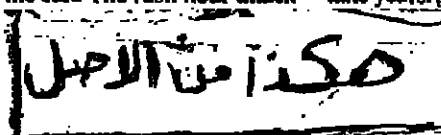
But because the Japanese Aum Shinrikyo cult has already been ordered to dis-

band and has been declared bankrupt, it is unlikely that the damages ordered by the Tokyo court will be paid.

For the survivors of the attack, however, the ruling was an important legal victory that may set a precedent for other civil actions against the cult. The rush-hour attack

on Tokyo's subway system left 12 people dead, made thousands ill and shocked a nation accustomed to taking public safety for granted.

Mr Asahara and many of his followers are facing criminal charges, including murder, although verdicts could take years. (AP)



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Suu Kyi defies Burma junta's arrest threat



James Pringle talks to Burma's opposition leader in Rangoon and finds her spirit is still undaunted

A CHEERFUL and apparently undaunted Aung San Suu Kyi, who was released last year after six years of house arrest, said in Rangoon yesterday that her possible re-arrest would be "no problem at all".

Though this time she might be put in the infamous Insein prison "which would be a new and interesting experience".

The 51-year-old Nobel peace laureate was speaking at a time of mounting tension here, with a new wave of arrests and harsh prison sentences meted out to her National League for Democracy (NLD) supporters, including a close personal assistant and a bodyguard.

The NLD won the 1990 elections by a landslide, but was not allowed to take power. Last night a military intelligence spokesman accused Daw Suu Kyi of "collaborating with subversives".

In an interview with *The Times*, Daw Suu Kyi said she did not worry about her personal security because there was no point in it. "We have to be practical," she said.

"In this situation, if the army really wants to kill me they can do it without any problems at all, so there is no point in making elaborate security arrangements. But there are other things I can do something about, so I would rather give my attention to that."

"It is not bravado or anything like that. I suppose I am just rather down to earth and I just don't see the point to this worry."

Told that foreign diplomats here were expressing concern about her health, saying she seemed tired and strained since the new drive against her party, Daw Suu Kyi gave

a ringing laugh. "Actually the reason why I think I am more tired these days than I have been is my lack of self-discipline, because I acquired a whole lot of interesting books and really I should not be reading late at night. I should just go to sleep."

Reflecting on politics and on recent discussions with friends, she said she took the Buddhist view that nothing was unchanging in the world. "To think otherwise is a lot of nonsense, politically speaking, but particularly from a Buddhist point of view it is very silly because we think everything is impermanent and things are changing all the time."

"With politics you cannot see ahead more than a few days. Look at the Soviet Union; its collapse happened so quickly and no one would have expected it."

Asked whether the leaders of the ruling military junta, may have been affected by the death sentence passed on former President Chun Doo Hwan, the former ruler of South Korea, she said: "I am afraid these events do not really help us too much in this country. Such trials and sentences make the authorities here and dictators everywhere else extremely nervous."

"They probably think 'we have to cling on to power for ever and ever otherwise we

shall get into trouble.' She said she did not feel "boxed in" in the present situation in which she has no dialogue with the junta.

"It is a very challenging situation. I think the people who usually feel frustrated are the ones who cannot do anything, or just don't do anything, but we have so much to do, even simple things like taking care of the families of political prisoners."

Asked about her call for a foreign tourist boycott of Burma, she said she would like to see this during the so-called "Visit Myanmar Year" beginning on November 18 through the end of the dry season next April. "We would like people to keep away precisely during these months as a demonstration of solidarity."

With reference to the concern of some Burmese, even

NLD supporters, who say this would lead to loss of income for small tourism workers, she showed a hint of a somewhat more imperious attitude. "It is true that some will be hurt but I am afraid it cannot be helped. We all have to put up with some hardship. We have to make sacrifices in order to get where we want to."

Referring to the arrests, harsh prison sentences and sometimes torture of friends and colleagues, she said: "I don't feel exposed. I suppose I have to say as a good Buddhist I believe that in the end you have nobody to rely on but yourself. It is only your own deeds that will decide what will happen to you."

"We know that anyone can be taken at any time and when someone is taken away we just have to try to fill that gap as far as possible."

Giving a ringing endorsement to the BBC World Service, she said that during the period of her house arrest she was far better informed about the world than now. "I used to listen to the BBC five hours a day, but now I can only listen for one hour."



Aung San Suu Kyi, ignoring government warnings, addresses a rally outside her home

Democracy heroine accused of subversion

DISPLAYING its usual paranoia, Burma's military junta accused the country's pro-democracy leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, yesterday of collaborating with subversives. Apparently it was setting the scene, diplomats in Rangoon said, for moving against the Nobel peace laureate when it felt the moment was right (James Pringle writes).

Colonel Kyaw Thein, a military intelligence officer, told a press conference held by the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council that Daw Suu Kyi, who was released last July from six years of house arrest, and other members of her political party, the National League for Democracy (NLD), had accepted subversive materials and conspired with outlawed parties composed of expatriate Burmese citizens.

They included an exile group based in Washington and 19 members of her party recently arrested for contact with exiled Burmese in India. Western envoys say they cannot rule out the re-arrest of Daw Suu Kyi in future.

Tourists burnt in acid waste accident

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

HOLIDAYMAKERS at a beachside chalet complex were badly burnt yesterday when a tanker carrying sulphuric acid waste overturned on a coast road above the beach, sending what witnesses described as "a tide of acid sludge" surging through the chalets below and into the sea.

The accident took place at one in the morning, when most of the holidaymakers were asleep. A father and son, who were sitting on their chalet balcony watching television, were hit directly by the acid waste and suffered severe burns.

Francesco Valerio, 40, and his 12-year-old son, Giorgio, were being treated in intensive care at a hospital in Gaeta. Doctors said they had extensive burns and were in a "serious condition". A dozen other holidaymakers also needed treatment for burns and police said a hotel and restaurant near by had to be evacuated after staff and residents were overcome by the acid fumes.

Emergency services and anti-pollution specialists rushed to the beach at Sperlonga, on the Lazio coast between Rome and Naples. Police said the lorry had been transporting acid waste from Naples to a disposal plant at Alessandria in northern Italy.

The lorry had skidded and overturned while trying to overtake another lorry on a bridge. Nearly 23 tonnes of toxic waste poured out of the tanker and on to the beach. The tanker driver was trapped in the cab and had to be freed by rescue services.

Environmentalists said the accident was a "tragic illustration" of the dangers of transporting toxic waste through populated areas. Sperlonga is a popular resort noted for its clean beaches.



Rifkind: signed deal with Japan in Tokyo

Japan and Britain link up as partners

BY MICHAEL BYNON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN and Japan yesterday signed a ground-breaking "action agenda for a Special Partnership", committing both countries to unprecedented levels of co-operation in world affairs, economic issues and in fostering closer links between Europe and Asia.

The agenda, signed in Tokyo by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and Yukio Ikeda, the Japanese Foreign Minister, sets a formal seal on Britain's growing political and trade ties with its G7 partner. It promises to "enrich bilateral relations" well into the next century, and lays out a blueprint for giving life to hopes for the promotion of world peace, the opening up of multilateral trade and the exchange of ideas, culture and young people.

The two countries announced a series of initiatives in peacekeeping, the reconstruction of Bosnia-Herzegovina, nuclear non-proliferation, and reform of the United Nations. Britain commits itself to strong support for permanent Japanese membership of the UN Security Council. The two countries will hold joint foreign policy and defence seminars.

France's star-crossed chefs land in the soup

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A SECOND restaurant with three Michelin stars has crashed to earth and announced it is closing down, just six months after the first such closure rocked the French culinary world.

Marc Veyrat, a celebrated chef who runs the three-star restaurant Auberge L'Eridan, near Annecy, yesterday announced he would cease his

tion of becoming the first three-star chef to go bankrupt. Just 20 restaurants in France have earned the coveted three Michelin stars.

Both chefs were victims of over-expansion, but they were also "experimental" in their cooking and thus the target of vigorous criticism from rival chefs who claim that France is abandoning its gastronomic

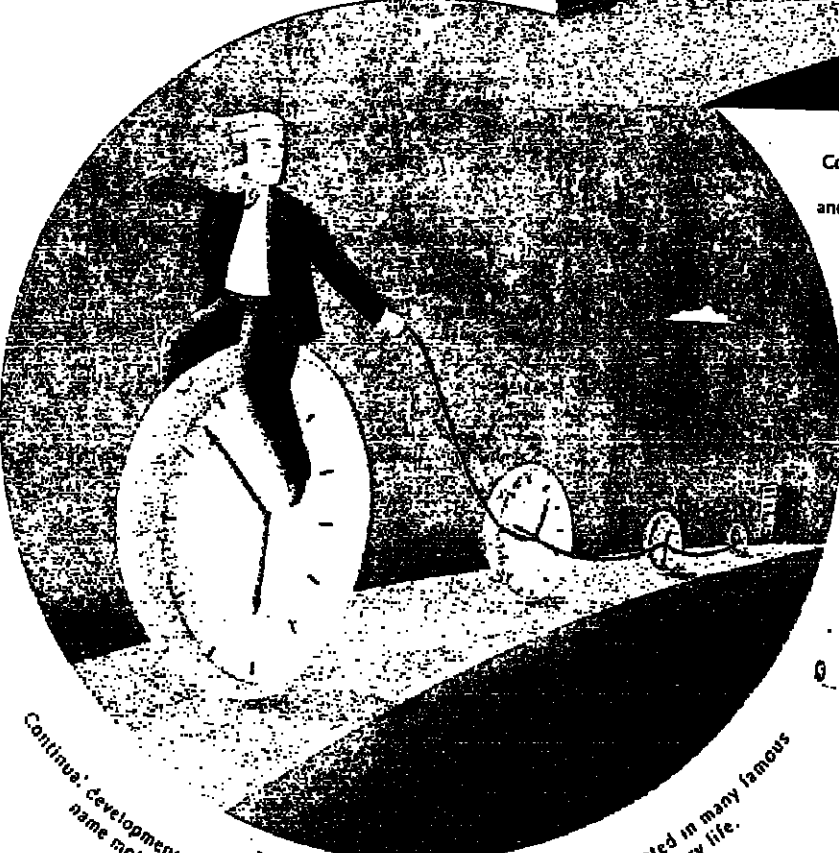
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HITACHI

Continuing his account of Jackie Onassis's early life, her cousin John Davis recalls her teenage battles

Why the deb of the year kept men at bay

Not long after Jacqueline entered Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York, in the fall of 1947, Cholly Knickerbocker, the Hearst papers' syndicated gossip columnist, nominated her Debutante of the Year.

The Cholly Knickerbocker nomination brought more annoyance than blessings. At 18, Jacqueline was sure enough of herself not to need an ego trip from a gossip columnist. Among other irritations, it only distanced her from her freshman classmates at Vassar, earning her both their jealousy and their derision. Although she did very well in her studies, socially Jacqueline never was quite accepted by girls at Vassar, and, insofar as the boys were concerned, Knickerbocker's anointing of her led chiefly to a series of disappointments.

I remember the dances in New York that winter — the assemblies, cotillions, and debutante balls — when the young blades from Princeton, Harvard and Yale would come up to me in the stag line and ask, "Hey, what's wrong with that Debutante-of-the-Year cousin of yours? She doesn't put out. You can't even dance cheek-to-cheek with her." Or "What's the story on your Queen Deb cousin? You can't get even halfway to first base with her."

It was always the same with Jacqueline's admirers and would-be lovers. They all knew of her Debutante-of-the-Year status and wanted to make out with her, and she deflated all of them. Jacqueline did not just play hard to get — she was impossible to get. Her father, Jack Bouvier, whose picture she kept prominently displayed in her room, had helped to make her that way. He had written and admonished her many times not to forget that "all men are rats" and that it was "fatal" to make herself seem "available" or "easy". "Always keep them guessing," he would tell her.

Having Jacqueline named Debutante of the Year meant very little to Jack, who had no use for Cholly Knickerbocker or any other gossip columnist since he had suffered considerably from them in the past, especially at the time of his divorce.

Jacqueline was not particularly happy during her first year in Poughkeepsie, a provincial manufacturing town on the east bank of the Hudson, home of the Matthew Vassar Brewery, and the Smith



JACQUELINE BOUVIER

an intimate memoir

Brothers Cough Drop factory. "That goddamn Vassar," she would call it. It bored her. There were few places to go for a drink or a snack, and the town's one decent clothing store, Peck and Peck, was beyond her means. In New York, she could charge clothes to Daddy at Saks and Bloomingdale's. Instead of hanging out with her classmates at weekends, she would take off for her father's New York apartment, or for football weekends at Yale and Princeton.

Frequently, when she visited her father's apartment, Jacqueline would be surprised to find a young girl there — her 53-year-old father's newest flame. What would surprise her most would be her realisation that her father's girlfriend was only a few years older than she was, perhaps 21 or 22.

In May 1948, Jack wrote several argumentative letters to Jacqueline in which he observed that he knew she had scarcely any money in the bank, but he might send her a cheque if she didn't neglect him so much and would recognise that he was still her father and naturally interested in her and all she did.

In another May letter, Jack expressed his surprise and annoyance over being told at the last minute of Jacqueline's plans to spend the summer in Europe.

While Jacqueline was racing through Europe, Jack Bouvier wrote her a long, newsy letter telling her that her younger sister

Lee had just completed a nine-day stay with him at a charming cottage he had rented off the Montauk highway and warning her that she would have to look more beautiful than ever or else Lee would steal a lot of her boyfriends.

Jacqueline was soon back in her college routine, studying hard all week and taking off at weekends for Yale and Princeton, and occasionally her father's apartment, to keep him from complaining that she neglected him and to make sure he would not carry out his periodic threats to cut off her monthly allowance.

Meanwhile, she was inundated with a steady stream of advice from him about how she should behave with men. Apparently, she had dropped all her plans one weekend in order to rush up to New Haven for a date with a handsome Yale whom she hardly knew. Jack Bouvier had got the impression that she just couldn't wait to be in his arms.

Concerned that Jacqueline would harm her reputation, he told her very emphatically that it was a very unwise thing to give a young man the sense that she was utterly delighted to take a trip to see him, no matter who he was. By acting so overjoyed to receive the invitation, she would only be showing her own lack of self-respect and giving the young man's friends the idea of how easy it would be to entice her to New Haven. He told her not to forget that for years he had advised

her always to play hard to get.

Evidently, the Yale almost let Jacqueline get stranded in New Haven, where she would be at his mercy, and she was compelled to take two late-night train rides by herself. Jack told his daughter angrily that the boy in question "ought to be shot" for forcing an 18-year-old girl to take the 9.30pm train from New Haven to New York and then the midnight train from New York to Poughkeepsie. No boy was good enough, he admonished her, for her to take a lengthy trip alone at that late hour.

Jack also scolded his daughter for even considering visiting a boy's apartment alone. That had not been considered proper in his day and, he persisted, still was not. Jacqueline must have wearied of her father's relentless harangues, especially about her spending habits. On one occasion Jack berated his eldest daughter for spending too much money. He had just paid a bill for \$24 for her cosmetics and another for \$20 for photos taken at her cousin Shella's party, and had given her \$20 to see Lee. If she would be more thoughtful and stop charging so many of her expenses to him, she would get her allowance of \$50 a month on time, he told her. On another occasion, he would complain bitterly of all the purchases she charged to him at Bloomingdale's and Saks, as much as \$36 worth.

He thought she was too selfish. She had to start denying herself things because as she got older she would find self-denial increasingly difficult. She couldn't expect to have her every wish fulfilled.

He adamantly advised her not to emulate her mother, reminding her of Janet's want of generosity and repeating what he had told her many times — that Janet had been nothing but a gold-digger all her life.

The trouble, of course, was that Jacqueline at 19 was a beautiful, talented, intelligent and energetic young woman eager to live life to the hilt. Her father, who was now almost 60, was desperately trying to hold on to her and her sister, the only people who gave meaning to his life.

● Jacqueline Bouvier: An Intimate Memoir by John H. Davis, to be published by John Wiley and Sons (£14.99) on October 10.



A star in the making: as Debutante of the Year in 1947 Jacqueline Bouvier had a string of admirers

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You need to collect four tokens from The Times or The Sunday Times and send them with an application form (it

was in yesterday's paper and another will be published on Thursday) but you can book your hotel now by calling the Relais & Châteaux reservation service on Freephone 0800 960 239 or by Freefax 0800 968 152.

We are joined this year by BT whose Chargecard is a useful travelling companion. You can use it to dial direct from more than 30 countries, including most of Europe, North America and Australasia and have the calls charged to your home or business number or credit card. An application form to get the Chargecard will also appear again in Thursday's paper.



Win a luxury trip to Hadrian's wall

Farlam Hall Hotel, Brampton, is a charming, family-run former manor house where you will be bowled over by the hospitality and the cooking. Menus vary according to the seasons and the availability of local produce.

You can win a two-night break for two people in a double or twin room with full English breakfast, four-course dinner with coffee on both nights. The prize can be taken any time before March 25, 1997, except on public holidays, and subject to availability.

The winner will receive a BT Chargecard with £500 of free calls for the year. The Chargecard gives you access to more than 500 million phones worldwide, so wherever you are travelling it will be easy to stay in touch.

Farlam Hall is just a few miles from Hadrian's wall and stands in a landscaped Victorian garden with an ornamental lake and stream. The winner will be chosen at random from correct entries received by midnight on Tuesday, September 10.

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Call our competition hotline below with your answer to the following question?
Who built Hadrian's wall?

- a) the Vikings
- b) the Romans
- c) the Picts



COMPETITION HOTLINE 0891 665 573

Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p at all other times

Indian wives turn the land dry

Prohibition has been introduced in the hard-drinking farming state of Haryana, in northern India. Drink police search cars at border checkpoints, neighbours inform on each other, good whisky is being poured down sinks in panic. Bootleggers and smugglers are operating, with illegal stills producing often lethal concoctions, and the state government is going broke from revenue losses.

All this is happening because an army of poor village women shook off their traditional timidity and confronted drunkenness.

The impact on life in the villages has been stunning. On Saturday nights the men sit outside in the dusty compounds of their huts, smoking pungent cigarettes called bidis and drinking tea. The mood is calm: a far cry from the days when every man reeled home drunk and often violent from cheap liquor. Nowhere in India pandered to drink like Haryana, which had a huge network of liquor shops open 24

hours, every day of the year. But now the shops have been closed down. "I don't get beaten any more," says Renu Devi, her toothless young husband next to her. He looks remorseful and shuffles off. Mrs Devi smiles. She was part of the women's movement that rose up against alcohol and domestic violence, and whose votes helped to topple the state government in elections this year. Rarely have rural Indian women tasted such power.

The impact has been no less dramatic in the drawing rooms of the other India — the rich Westernised one. In Gurgaon, a small town on the Haryana border within commuting distance of Delhi, the well-to-do live in £240,000 townhouses in a well-guarded development called Garden Estate. Everybody cleared out their alcohol before prohibition became law on June 30.

There is a sense of outrage, of personal liberties being attacked and a lifestyle destroyed. "I don't usually drink, but this has makes me

Christopher Thomas reports from hard-drinking Haryana, where villagers have forced the state to ban alcohol

want to," says Neera Sood, sipping a lime soda brought by a servant. "Most people don't keep a drop of booze in the house any more. What if somebody informs on you? This could turn vicious." She knew a family that had bribed police with £5,450 after being caught drinking.

Keeping alcohol is a non-bailable offence that carries a maximum penalty of three years' jail plus a fine. "I have lived all over India and I have never seen as much domestic violence as there was in Haryana," says retired General J. M. Vohra, who lives in Garden Estate. "The maid-servants would come to work late or not turn up at all because they had been beaten. A large percentage of village men are alcoholics."

Haryana's Chief Minister, Bansi Lal, promised prohibition during his election campaign in response to a burgeoning women's movement that drew its inspiration from a similar uprising in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh a few years ago. Andhra women went on cooking, washing and sex strikes in protest at drunkenness. They smashed up liquor shops, attacked lorry drivers delivering liquor and shaved the heads of drunken husbands after they passed out. The state is now dry.

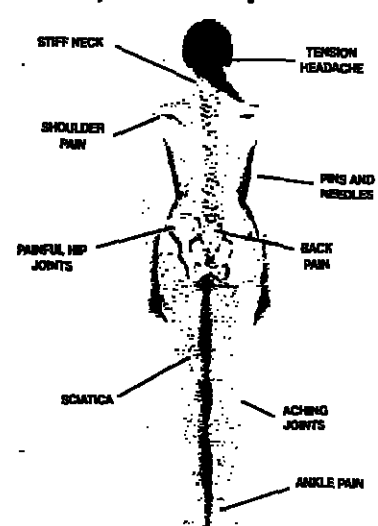
Haryana is losing £109 million a year in excise duties, and the state appealed in vain for financial aid from the central Government. It has raised the prices of electricity, gas and petroleum products and increased local taxes to claw back some money, but there is a crippling shortfall.

"Prohibition is OK for people below the poverty line but there have to be exceptions for those who can afford to drink," says Prem Thadhani in his Garden Estate home. The rich are holding their wedding receptions outside the state and increas-

have a licence. Property prices in Garden Estate are falling. More than 150,000 people who were employed in the liquor trade are jobless and the prices of almost everything have risen because of the soaring cost of electricity. But the village women of Haryana sleep easier.

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THE TIMES

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3 1996

Rising factory output stifles rate cut hopes

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH manufacturing showed convincing signs of emerging from a long period of stagnation in August, making it less likely that the Chancellor will risk an all-out fight with the Bank of England by cutting base rates tomorrow.

Manufacturing expanded at its fastest rate since spring last year, according to the latest report from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply. Its Purchasing Managers' Index registered 51.8, its highest level for a year, compared with 51.0 in July.

The institute said the figures suggest that the slowdown in manufacturing activity that began in late 1994 probably bottomed out in May. "Since then, rising consumers' expenditure has been the main driving force behind steadily accelerating growth in the

manufacturing sector," it said.

The latest figures appear to show a broadening of activity. In recent months, the production of consumer goods has been the only sector of manufacturing that has showed any buoyancy. But August shows that intermediate goods industries displayed the fastest growth, suggesting that they are seeing the benefits of increased demand for components used in the production of consumer goods.

New orders remained the same in August as in June, although this was higher than at any time since March last year and there was evidence of an improved spread in activity. Strongest growth was in intermediate goods, and consumer goods continued to rise but there were also tentative signs of growth in orders for investment goods.

The City believes that yesterday's figures confirm other evidence that manufacturing, the weak spot in the economy this year, is finally on the turn and that there is no need for another cut in interest rates to stimulate activity. A Reuters poll of 20 economists showed that 13 believed Kenneth Clarke would leave rates unchanged after tomorrow's monetary meeting with Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England.

This opinion received support from separate Bank figures yesterday, which showed that M0, the narrow measure of money supply, rose a seasonally adjusted 7.5 per cent in the year to August, up from 7.1 per cent in July and above expectations in the City.

Although the correlation between M0 growth and consumer spending has not been that close during this recovery, economists still argued that the jump in narrow money is a warning sign that spending is strengthening and is ammunition for the Bank in its fight against lower rates.

However, the other seven economists polled by Reuters were still speculating that the Chancellor may take the opportunity of cutting rates by a last quarter point, in spite of the staunch — and public — opposition of the Bank.

The rate-cut enthusiasts pointed out that manufacturing may have started to recover but the upturn is far from dramatic. At the same time, key measures of inflation are falling. The purchasing managers' price index rose a little in August but still remained at a very low level. Just under a quarter of purchasing managers reported that the average price paid for their purchases fell.

Ian Shepherdson, chief UK economist at HSBC Markets, said that the latest purchasing managers' report is consistent with manufacturing output growth of only around 1 per cent year-on-year and negative input price inflation.

Pennington, page 27

Anatole Kaletsky, page 29



Jonathan Fry, left, chief executive, and Brian Hardy, finance director, presenting Burmah Castrol's results yesterday

Surge in Asia boosts Burmah

A SURGE in profits from fast-growing Asian economies helped Burmah Castrol to offset a sharp downturn in Germany. The lubricants and chemicals group lifted first-half operating profits 7 per cent to £134 million, in spite of a fall in volumes in Europe and static consumption in North America.

Pre-tax profits rose by 8 per cent to £125.9 million, including an exceptional gain of £23 million on the sale of Burmah's fuel distribution businesses. The disposals contributed £89 million in cash to Burmah. Gearing was almost halved, to 17 per cent in June, but Burmah said that it had no plans for major acquisitions. It indicated that a special dividend was unlikely, because of its surplus advance corporation tax problem. Burmah is now earning more from operations in Asia than in Europe. The 12p interim dividend is up 9 per cent on last year.

Tempus, page 28

Morgan Grenfell funds suspended

By JILL INSLY

MORGAN GRENFELL'S investment management arm has suspended dealings in funds worth £1.4 billion after the discovery of possible irregularities in the valuation of the fund's shareholdings.

Thousands of investors have been left in limbo while the company and the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation, the regulator, investigate whether unquoted securities held by three unit trusts have been valued correctly.

Investigations centre on Morgan Grenfell's £788 million flagship European Growth Fund and two smaller funds, Europa and European Capital Growth. Peter Young, fund manager of the European Growth and European Capital Growth unit trusts, was relieved of his duties on Friday. Morgan Grenfell and

IMRO were unable to say how long the suspensions would last.

It is highly unusual for a company to suspend dealings in units because of pricing irregularities. The last instance was Dumenil, a French owned investment company, which suspended dealings in all its unit trusts in November 1989. The suspension continued until the following February, when the Securities and Investment Board ordered the funds to be wound up.

Morgan Grenfell's problems have come to light just one week after Jardine Fleming, another leading investment manager, was fined £12 million for dealing irregularities.

A Morgan Grenfell spokesman says the investment manager will make good any liability in respect of irregularities

identified during the investigations, but refuses to comment on the sums involved.

Unit trusts may use up to 10 per cent of their money to buy shares in unquoted companies, provided the funds' trustees are happy with their use. However, most fund managers are wary of buying unquoted stocks that may prove difficult to sell.

The European Growth Fund has proved particularly popular with independent financial advisers, who sold units on the back of its top-of-the-table performance during the past five years. But the funds' performance has dropped off over the past six months. At the same time, concern over its aggressive investment stance, in particular its large shareholdings in companies such as Nokia and British Biotech, has increased.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDEXES

FT-SE 100	3884.4	(+16.8)
Yield	4.03%	
FT-SE All share	1922.02	(+8.04)
Nikkei	20107.11	(-59.79)
New York	Closed	
Dow Jones	Closed	
S&P Composite	Closed	

US RATE

Federal Funds	Closed	(5.75%)
Long Bond	Closed	(9.57%)
Yield	Closed	(7.12%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	5.75%	(5.75%)
12m long gilt	10.75%	(10.75%)

STERLING

New York	Closed	(1.5828)
London	Closed	(1.5830)
DM	Closed	(1.5830)
FF	Closed	(7.5287)
SFR	Closed	(1.8719)
Yen	Closed	(168.74)
S index	Closed	(85.3)

US \$ & DOLLAR

London	Closed	(1.4807)
DM	Closed	(1.4807)
FF	Closed	(1.2015)
SFR	Closed	(1.08.95)
Yen	Closed	(96.4)
S index	Closed	(86.0)

TOKYO CLOSING YEN 100.10

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Nov)	\$21.20	(\$20.35)
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GOLD

London close	\$386.90	(\$386.35)
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House prices up in August

By ROBERT MILLER

HOUSE prices rose 0.5 per cent in August, traditionally one of the quietest months in the property market, according to a survey published today by the Halifax Building Society.

The Halifax, Britain's largest mortgage lender, says that house prices are now 5.7 per cent higher than a year ago, compared with 5.3 per cent reported in July.

The Nationwide Building Society last week reported that monthly house prices in August rose 1.7 per cent, lifting them 5.4 per cent from a year ago.

Prices for new houses, however, fell again in August for the second successive month by 0.4 per cent, taking the annual rate of house price inflation for such properties to 2.3 per cent. House prices are now 5.6 per cent above their

trough in 1993, but are still 8.1 per cent below their peak in 1989. The Halifax says: "The further small rise this month confirms our view that house prices are now steadily recovering."

In common with many other mortgage lenders, the Halifax cautions against expectations of a runaway recovery in house prices across Britain. Evidence suggests that although the recovery is now well established it is still very patchy, with some regions seeing little evidence of improvement.

The Halifax adds: "Given the rises in prices which occurred in the second half of 1995, we would expect the annual rate of house price inflation to remain broadly stable at around 5 per cent over the next few months."

Pennington, page 27

Pepsi deal will turn the Trocadero blue



The Trocadero intends to create a blue café and install Pepsi laser logos

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

TROCADERO has sealed a £3 million sponsorship deal with Pepsi that will result in the leisure complex in London's Piccadilly turning blue.

Trocadero signed a two-year deal with the cola company to rename the centre as the "Pepsi Trocadero" and to use the company's new blue imagery throughout the building.

The Trocadero intends to create a blue café install Pepsi laser logos and dress security guards in Pepsi colours. Pepsi will also sponsor the IMAX 3D cinema development scheduled to open in the complex next April. The deal is

worth £2 million in cash and up to £1 million in other commercial benefits to Trocadero. The company said Pepsi has beaten a number of other consumer companies to the sponsorship deal and it was hoping to unveil more link-ups, including the sponsorship of individual attractions.

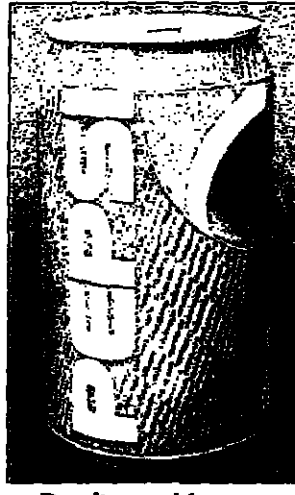
The Trocadero was relaunched recently after a £50 million refit. The new £45 million Sega World theme park, an indoor leisure complex over six floors, is scheduled to open next week. Pepsi revamped its logo and image several months ago and

was keen to continue its multi-million pound marketing push through sponsorship of the centre, which had 20 million visitors last year.

Burford Property group bought the Trocadero out of receivership for £94 million in 1994. It was floated as an independent company on the Alternative Investment Market last year, with shares opening at 35p. Yesterday the shares closed up 0.5p at 79p, valuing the company at more than £390 million.

Tempus, page 28

City Diary, page 29



Pepsi's new blue can

Investors force GEC to back down

By JASON NISSE

GEC, the electronics company, yesterday amended the terms of the £10 million pay package for its new managing director, George Simpson, by tightening performance targets on his bonus scheme.

The change may not be enough to prevent some institutional investors showing their opposition to the package at the annual meeting of shareholders, on Friday.

GEC's share price will have to outperform the FT-SE 100 index by 10 per cent over three years before Mr Simpson is entitled to a long-term bonus package. Previously, all that was needed was an outperformance over six months.

In addition, GEC will have to perform in the top 25 of FT-SE 100 companies, as measured by total shareholder return, which includes earnings, dividends and share-price performance.

The changes cover the long-term bonus plan, which represents just £1 million of Mr Simpson's package, and half his short-term bonus, worth about £1.5 million. The rest of the five-year, £10 million package remains largely intact.

Lord Prior, GEC chairman, conceded the change at a meeting with Richard Regan, of the Association of British Insurers, yesterday. Although the scheme now meets ABI guidelines, some institutions may still not accept it. Standard Life, the mutual insurer, dislikes total shareholder return as a performance measure and may yet vote against Mr Simpson's appointment in protest.

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AEA sell-off value likely to be set at £200m

By PAUL DURMAN

THE Government's last privatisation before the general election got under way yesterday with the publication of the pathfinder prospectus for AEA Technology, which provides decommissioning and waste management services to the nuclear power industry.

Only 10 per cent of the shares available have been earmarked for sale to private investors. About 80 per cent will be placed with institutional investors, while the remaining 10 per cent are reserved for the company's 3,500 employees. The employees will be given £100 of shares free and if they buy another £50 worth, will receive further shares worth £800. If all the employees take up their full £1,510 entitlement their combined holding would be worth nearly £5.3 million.

Management, headed by Sir Anthony Cleaver, the chairman, and Peter Watson, the chief executive, will not benefit from any special share scheme. Dr Watson is on a

relatively modest salary of £143,000. He recently made a £4 million killing on the controversial sale of the Porterbrook train-leasing company.

AEA Technology, which until recently was part of the UK Atomic Energy Authority, is expected to be valued at about £200 million. Only a little more than half its £250-million-a-year business is nuclear-related. Its technologies are used in many other fields — starting with environmental monitoring and control, but also in areas such as high-performance batteries for mobile phones.

The company's work for the UKAEA is expected to decline substantially, although it remains by far the biggest customer, accounting for £60.9 million of sales last year. AEA Technology hopes to replace this and other Government work by winning more business from the growing nuclear industry in Japan and the Pacific, by taking on the decommissioning of redundant power stations in the US and Europe, and by exploiting the non-nuclear applications of its technologies.

In the past three years, AEA Technology's operating profits have risen from £4.3 million to £19.8 million — largely thanks to the laying off of 1,200 highly qualified staff. Dr Watson said that there was still some scope to improve margins and to cut costs further.

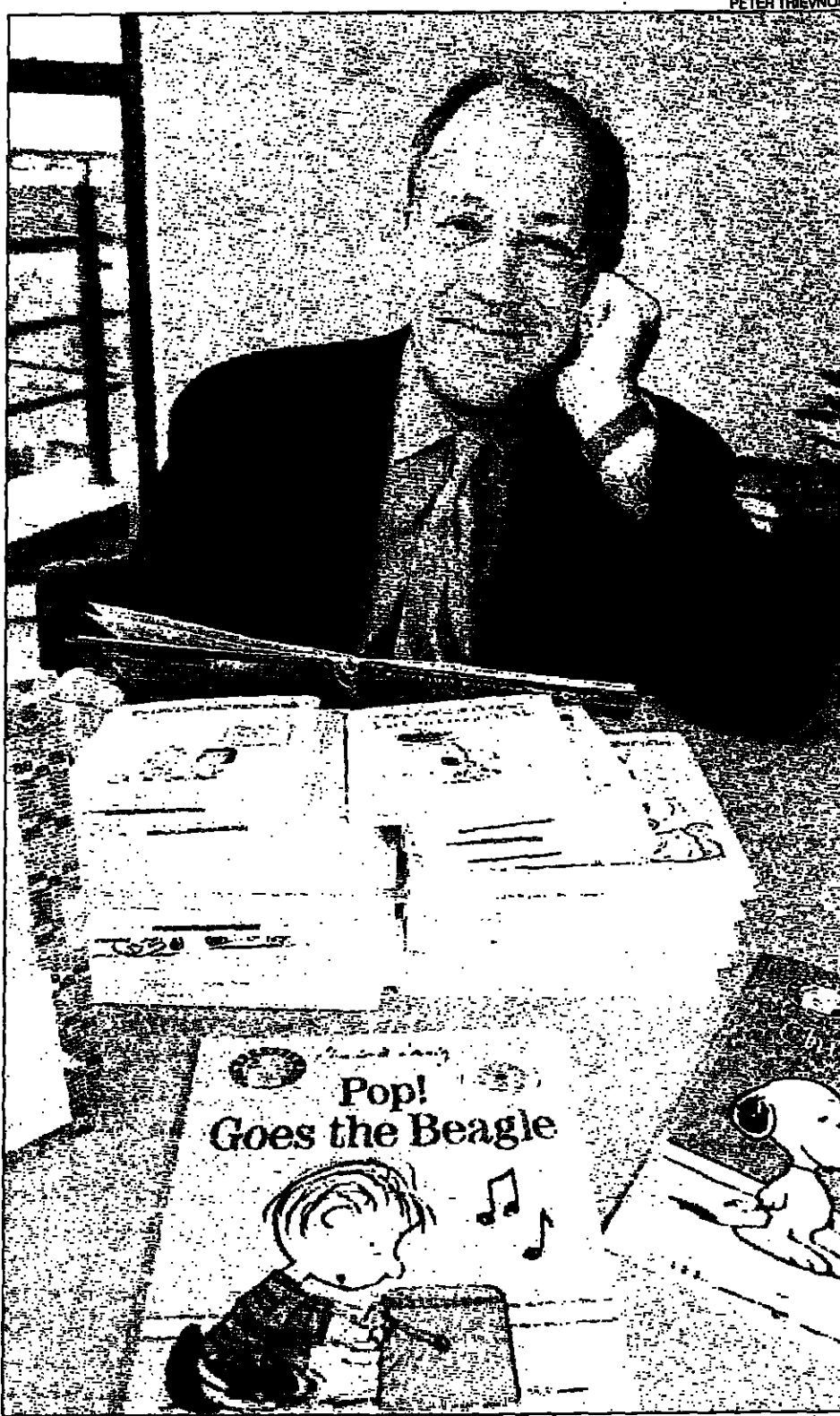
The Government will initially retain a "special share" in AEA Technology that will effectively prevent anyone from buying a stake of more than 15 per cent of the company. However, this protection will expire in October 1999. Applications for shares must be made by September 24. Dealings in the shares are expected to begin on September 26.

Tempus, page 28

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Rate	Rate
Australia \$	2.07	1.91
Austria Sch	17.28	15.78
Belgium Fr	50.82	46.36
Canada \$	2.242	2.082
Cyprus Cyp£	0.7489	0.6949
Denmark Lkr	8.22	7.71
Finland Mk	7.57	6.92
France Fr	6.32	5.78
Germany DM	2.487	2.257
Greece Dr	385	360
Hong Kong \$	12.70	11.70
Iceland Kr	115	95
Ireland Pt	1.014	0.934
Israel Sh	5.29	4.84
Italy Lit	2.077	1.918
Japan Yen	164.30	158.30
Malta	0.598	0.543
Netherlands Gld	2.748	2.516
New Zealand \$	2.41	2.19
Norway Kr	10.36	9.78
Portugal Esc	240.50	230.00
Spain Ptas	166.64	156.36
Sweden Kr	10.36	9.78
Switzerland Fr	2.013	1.833
Turkey Lira	150.00	120.00
USA \$	1.659	1.529

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



Laurence Orbach of Quarto, which has dropped its own CD-Rom development

Quarto plays by the book

By ERIC REGULY

QUARTO, the book publishing group, said yesterday that it will no longer develop its own multi-media CD-Roms after taking the view that electronic publishing, in general, has not been a commercial success.

The company said: "Most people have a reverence for books that they don't have for

the printed word in other formats." Quarto will not ignore the CD-Rom market but will seek to minimise the risk by "co-venturing" with existing electronic developers.

Quarto, whose chairman and chief executive is Laurence Orbach, reported a pre-tax profit of £1.88 million, or 4.3p a share, in the half

year to June 30, up 6 per cent from the £1.49 million, or 3.8p a share, in 1995. Turnover rose 16 per cent to £30.9 million. It said that strong sales in the US and in continental Europe more than offset "abysmal" sales in the UK.

An interim dividend of 2.2p, up 10 per cent, is to be paid on November 8.

Boeing awarded \$6.3bn orders

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

BOEING yesterday unveiled \$6.3 billion worth of orders at the Farnborough air show in addition to launching a new version of the Boeing 757 that can carry 20 per cent more passengers than the basic model.

The orders come as Boeing is fighting with the European Airbus consortium for dominance of the world air industry and brings Boeing's total orders for this year to 405.

The first batch of the new orders will be delivered next year. The aircraft have been bought by British Airways, Air Berlin, Air Tours, Ansett World Wide, Lot Polish Airlines, Maersk Air of Denmark, and ILFC, the US based leasing company.

British Aerospace and Lagardere, the French missile company, said yesterday that the creation of their new joint venture was a major step in the consolidation of the European defence industry (Oliver August writes).

Matra Bae Dynamics, now Europe's biggest missile manufacturer, may in the future comprise most European missile builders, the two parent companies said.

Matra is currently bidding for Thomson, the other leading French missile manufacturer. Bae and Lagardere have signed an agreement that if the proposed acquisition goes ahead Thomson will be integrated into the joint venture.

Bae emphasised that this would not lead to a reduction in its ownership or control of the joint company. Lagardere and Bae both have a 50 per cent stake.

Both parent companies said that they did not expect any job losses because efficiency savings should be offset by an increase in business.

The agreement creating Matra Bae Dynamics was signed in mid-August. The details will be finalised by the end of the year. The company will have a turnover of £1 billion and a combined current order book of £2.6 billion, employing 6,000 people in the UK and France.

Eurofighter order, page 1
Pennington, page 27
Pointing the way, page 29

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Oil price jumps as Iraq deal delayed

THE London oil price jumped \$1.03, to \$21.81, yesterday after the United Nations put on hold the Iraq oil-for-food exchange. The UN move came after military incursions by Baghdad into the part of Iraq set aside for Kurds. Prior to the action oil traders had been anticipating the first oil sales on world markets by Iraq since the end of the Gulf War. On Sunday, Boutros Boutros Ghali, UN Secretary-General, delayed the deployment of UN personnel who were intended to supervise aid distribution under the oil exchange plan.

Geoff Pyne, energy analyst at UBS, said: "The question may be not when will Iraqi oil sales start but whether they will start." Oystein Berentsen, the international crude trading manager at Statoil, said: "This is a real kick... With demand so strong and oil stocks so low the market was looking as if it could easily have absorbed some Iraqi exports." Iraq was expected to supply light world markets with an extra 550,000 barrels a day of crude at current prices.

Steeds takes initiative

DAVID STEEDS is leaving Serco Group, the facilities management group, to take on the job of breathing new life into the Government's troubled Private Finance Initiative. Mr Steeds, who was corporate development director at Serco, will next month become chief executive of the Private Finance Panel Executive. At Serco, Mr Steeds has been responsible for project finance, funding and acquisitions and business development. He is said to have "an impressive track record" in PFI projects. Douglas Hogg, Mr Steeds's predecessor, has left to take a job in the City.

Radio station takeover

SCOTTISH Radio Holdings has agreed terms of a recommended £9.6 million offer for Community Radio Services, known as Downtown Radio and based in Northern Ireland. Scottish Radio is offering 33.5 new Scottish Radio shares and £119 cash for every 100 Downtown shares, valuing each Downtown share at about 240p. James Gordon, chairman of Scottish Radio, said: "Downtown Radio in Northern Ireland is highly respected and will continue to enjoy a high degree of autonomy in deciding how best to respond to the needs of its listeners."

Lister's losses deepen

LISTER & CO, the textiles company, has disclosed losses of £9.2 million for the year to March 31. Lister said that its accounts have been prepared on a going-concern basis and that it was meeting day-to-day working capital requirements through an overdraft facility repayable on demand. The losses, which compared with a £1.7 million deficit in the previous year, include a £4.1 million restructuring charge. A further £1.5 million was written off against investment losses. Losses were 55.49p a share (10.41p loss). There is again no dividend.

Cortecs drug advance

CORTECS INTERNATIONAL, the pharmaceuticals group that specialises in oral drug delivery systems, reports positive progress in the development of an oral form of insulin. Cortecs said results from the six adults in the preliminary trial were encouraging, but said much more work was required. Michael Flynn, chief executive, said: "There are still a number of steps to take before we could say we have a product." For the year ending June 30 Cortecs incurred a £3.8 million operating loss, down 9.5 per cent, on turnover up 40 per cent to £10.5 million.

Interoute heads for AIM

INTERROUTE, the telecoms company, is joining the Alternative Investment Market this month to raise £10 million for European expansion. The group was set up in July last year to prepare for the deregulation of the European telecoms market, which under EU law will be open to competition in 1998. It is laying down a pan-European telecom framework by installing its own switches in central phone exchanges. It will also offer low-cost international calls by using off-peak phone routes. James Capel is adviser to the placing.

Smith & Nephew US buy

SMITH & NEPHEW, the healthcare group, yesterday paid £28 million for the fracture-splinting business of Parker Medical Associates of North Carolina. The acquisition will give the British company an estimated 8 to 9 per cent of the US market for casting products. Parker Medical, which specialises in glass-fibre splinting products under the Ortho-Glass name, reported operating profits of £2.2 million on sales of £7 million last year. Smith & Nephew distributes Ortho-Glass in Europe under the Dynacast label.

Partco ahead to £4.4m

PARTCO GROUP, the distributor of automotive components, said its market continued to be highly competitive and difficult to predict, but the company said it was well-placed to maintain profitable growth. In the six months to June 30 pre-tax profits rose to £4.4 million from £3.6 million. Earnings were 10.8p a share (9.5p). The interim dividend rises to 2.5p a share from 2.25p, payable on November 30. After the purchase of Serck Marston, the supplier of radiators and heat exchangers, from BTR and IMI the company has 347 branches.

Peter Black lifts payout

PETER BLACK HOLDINGS, the supplier of healthcare, beauty and fashion products, has raised the total dividend to 5.5p a share from 5.05p in spite of a fall in pre-tax profits to £7.6 million from £9.4 million in the year to June 1. Total earnings were 8.52p a share (11.31p). The decline was attributed to non-recurring charges, including a £5.9 million provision against the closure of its last remaining footwear business. Profits from continuing operations rose 8.2 per cent. A final dividend of 4.13p (3.79p) is payable October 28.

Euro Disney set to post new profit

By ERIC REGULY

EURO DISNEY confirmed yesterday that relatively strong attendance figures will allow the theme park to report its second annual profit in November.

Philippe Bourguignon, chairman, said attendance during the crucial summer season was "satisfactory", with a rebound in visitors from Germany, while attendance during the low season increased.

His remarks helped to lift the shares by 7½p to 150p.

For the year ending September 30, 1995, Euro Disney reported a net profit of Fr14 million, a sum that included an extraordinary gain of Fr12 million from the repurchase of convertible bonds.

For the year to September 30, 1996, analysts expect the company to post a net profit of Fr150 million to Fr220 million. They said, however, that profit growth probably would be slow because of rising debt charges.

Euro Disney's debt repayments were temporarily suspended in an effort to stem losses at the struggling operation.

Bid hopes quashed by Singer

By ROBERT MILLER

SINGER & FRIEDLANDER, the independent City merchant bank, yesterday decisively dismissed market rumours that it might be about to lose its freedom after producing a near-42 per cent jump in half-year profits to £21 million.

Anthony Solomons, chairman of Singer & Friedlander, which raised funds under management to £4.7 billion in the six months to June 30 from £3 billion in the same period last year, said: "I hope the rumours that we are for sale will now go away completely. They are untrue."

Singer celebrated the half-time results by lifting its interim dividend, payable on November 1, to 1.85p a share from 1.6p. The results were helped by strong performances from its two broking arms — Collins Stewart and Carnegie, the Scandinavian investment bank and fund manager.

Singer, which saw earnings per share rise to 5.64p from 4p, said investment management profits were well up, in part due to successful integration of former investors from Knight Williams, the failed financial adviser.

Prosecutors to question Sumitomo over \$1.8bn losses

Tokyo launches copper inquiry

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN TOKYO

JAPANESE prosecutors are to launch a special task force this month to investigate huge losses on alleged unauthorised copper trading by a Sumitomo Corporation trader.

The Tokyo District Public Prosecutor's Office plans to investigate the case with a view to examining the role of Yasuo Hamanaka, 48, the trader blamed by Sumitomo for the \$1.8 billion loss, with breach of trust, sources close to the case said. A spokesman said: "The Tokyo prosecutor's office is going to set up a special task force this month, with up to five or six specialists." As a first step they will question Sumitomo officials who had connections with Mr Hamanaka.

The Sumitomo officials to be ques-

tioned soon by the Tokyo prosecutor's office include Masahiro Mogari, who worked as a senior copper trader until July, and Akio Imamura, general manager of its non-ferrous metals division. A copper trader who is currently assigned to its New York branch is also on the prosecutors' list.

In June Sumitomo, one of Japan's giant trading houses, revealed that it had incurred huge losses in alleged unauthorised copper trading by Mr Hamanaka, mainly on the London Metal Exchange, over a ten-year period. It dismissed Mr Hamanaka on June 14 and has been in seclusion at his home without commenting on the matter.

It is not yet clear when the Tokyo prosecutors will interview Mr Hamanaka, the man at the heart of the scandal. He emerged from hiding on

Sunday to disclose that for the past two months he has evaded the media and overseas authorities who wanted to question him by remaining at home.

"I have been living in my home since leaving Sumitomo," Mr Hamanaka told a reporter on Sunday afternoon, as he negotiated the aisles of a small supermarket near his home. Asked when he would give his side of the story of the world's biggest financial trading loss, Mr Hamanaka replied: "I have nothing to say on that." He also declined to comment on whether he expected to face legal action, either by Sumitomo or the authorities, over trading losses.

Meanwhile, Sumitomo reiterated that it will continue to co-operate with investigative authorities. But a Sumitomo spokesman refused to comment on the launch of the task force.

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CHANGING TIMES

هكذا كان العمل

□ Winning hand for UK defence firms □ Housebuilders feel pinch in recovery □ Preston North End's whole new ball game

Aces high for British Aerospace

IT'S been a long time coming. And there have been many hiccups on the way. But it looks like Europe has finally decided it can act as one economic unit — at least in aerospace.

Michael Portillo's announcement of a go ahead for the Eurofighter project, along with the imminent plans to build the \$8 billion A3XX superjumbo by Airbus Industrie, goes a long way towards creating a coherent force that will challenge the American giants such as Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Hughes. And for once Britain is in the driving seat with the Germans left on the sidelines.

At the centre of all this is British Aerospace. Just four years ago the company was a pitiful mess, with warring factions bickering over the corporate structure and the need for a rights issue. If it had not been our largest private sector employer it might not have survived as an independent entity.

Thanks to some radical corporate surgery, which was not without pain, and the ditching of the albatross of British manufacturing, Rover, chief executive Dick Evans was able to turn British Aerospace into a solvent, well capitalised and powerful company. The events unfolding at the Farnborough air show are a sign of a revitalised group flexing its muscles.

BAC is seen as the force behind the restructuring of Airbus into a single company, a restructuring that is giving it the confidence to launch the A3XX superjumbo in direct competition with Boeing. BAC has performed well in the latest round of defence contracts and is powering forward with the merger of its missiles arm with Matra of France. And finally BAC has convinced the Government to approve the UK element of the Eurofighter project, leaving Dasa, the unloved aerospace arm of Daimler Benz, floundering because it cannot convince the German Government to follow suit.

BAC is now ready to move into the next stage of its development, which is to force the pace of the long awaited restructuring of the European defence industry from a position of strength. No one in their right mind thinks that a European country on its own can have an integrated defence industry. What is needed is for various parts of Europe to specialise in different sectors, creating an integrated whole by way of joint venture, merger

and simple collaboration. If this had happened a couple of years ago, Britain would have been playing a weak hand and could easily have been trumped by the French, Germans or even, Italians. Now we are sitting with a fistful of aces and are ready to apply the pressure for change.

The Americans have not failed to take notice and are courting British Aerospace and GEC with no little subtlety. Neither defence group will be slow to take advantage of this if only to apply more pressure on our European partners. This week will be a good week for British industry. We must capitalise on it.

Money in the land bank

WHO WOULD be a housebuilder? Stricken when the economy fell out of bed and potential homebuyers stayed away in droves, they look like they are about to be hurt in the recovery as well.

According to Persimmon, the fourth largest housebuilder, prices for building land have



soared by 20 per cent in the South East of England over the past 12 months, a figure that is double the rate of land inflation in the country at large, according to recent Inland Revenue figures. At the same time the Halifax house price survey is indicating that prices for new homes fell in August by 0.4 per cent. To add insult to injury they fell in July as well, indicating that the price of new homes is increasing by just 2.3 per cent while the price of older houses is soaring by 5.7 per cent.

If you take those two figures together it spells out pain for the housebuilders. Buying the land accounts for about a quarter of the cost of a new home. So to sustain a 20 per cent hike in land

prices, the builder has to be able to put up the price of its new homes by 5 per cent even if it can keep all its other costs in line.

The national picture appears to be a small squeeze for the builders in general, but a nasty nip for those with a concentration in the South East. It is also the case that those who have a long land bank, like Persimmon which has enough for four years of building at current levels, are well equipped to ride out the storm. But those who need to replenish their stocks are facing more of a hard time.

This will make today's figures from George Wimpey all the more interesting. It needs to buy 15,000 plots a year to keep going at current levels. The spread of its land bank and its experience in marketing will determine how much pain it is suffering.

Halifax does not see house price inflation changing much from current levels. Land prices should fall back into line. But John Gummer, the Secretary of State for the Environment, is pressing local authorities to be tougher on planning approvals. And it is hard to see an incoming

Labour government making life easy for builders who have traditionally been large donors to the Tories.

In a different league

FANS of Preston North End — and the few hardy souls who follow Chorley Borough Rugby League club — are probably praying that the arrival of Trevor Hemmings as a major investor in both clubs will result in the return of the glory days.

Preston has not enjoyed much success since the early 1950s, while to add insult to injury, nearby Blackburn has prospered in recent years thanks to Jack Walker's millions. Chorley, meanwhile, dropped out of professional rugby for a couple of years, only returning last season to join the also-rans in the second division.

But Mr Hemmings, the former Scottish & Newcastle leisure director, is a seriously rich man who still holds a stake in S&N worth about £110 million.

The sale of Chorley to Preston means that Mr Hemmings now controls 10 per cent of the holding company which owns both clubs.

But Mr Hemmings has not taken a seat on the Preston board, which suggests that his ambitions may be more limited. It is becoming prohibitively expensive for a football club to buy its way into the Premier League. Helping Chorley reach the top of Rugby League may prove cheaper, but the sport has to date not transferred successfully from its heartlands. Preston may only be a short trip up the M61. But the cultural divide may be much greater.

Contrary Ken

THE CITY is betting heavily that the Chancellor will leave interest rates unchanged tomorrow. A minority is looking for just one more cut — and one more slap in the face for the Bank of England. But isn't it conceivable that Canny Ken could pop up with the surprise to end surprises by doing what the Jeremiahs of Threadneedle Street want and raising rates a quarter? The Bank would be silenced and the markets impressed. This way, the Chancellor could be absolutely sure that rates will stay exactly where they are until just after election day.

JIB looks at merger options

JIB Group, the UK insurance broker, is looking to merge with fellow brokers to strengthen its presence in Asia. John Barton, chief executive, said he believed competition was "here to stay".

JIB, a subsidiary of Jardine Matheson, the international conglomerate, announced record interim results for the six months ended June 30. Profit before tax was £16.4 million (£12.8 million before exceptional costs on turnover of £102 million (£93 million).

Earnings per share were 7.9p (6.2p) and an interim dividend of 3.5p per share will be paid gross (2.5p net).

Hays expands

Hays, the business services group whose attempt to acquire Christian Salvesen was aborted last month, announced a £65 million acquisition yesterday. Hays has bought Inkhold, the holding company of ICS Corporation. ICS provides a range of pre-9am delivery services through a national depot network handling 800,000 items nightly.

Mackie down

Mackie International, the precision engineering group, announced a pre-tax profit of £1.04 million in the half year to June 30, down 21 per cent, on turnover that fell 12.3 per cent to £9.5 million. The interim dividend remains unchanged at 3.7p.

Lloyd's choice

Lloyd's of London has appointed a new director of legal services, James Butler, 49, was director of legal services and company secretary at Mercury Communications. He succeeds Jo Rickard, who was on secondment to Lloyd's.

Wales wins

Fiamm, an Italian battery maker, is to invest £10.5 million in a battery plant in Crumlin, southeast Wales, creating 200 jobs.



Something to smile about: Robert Wood, chief executive of Henlys, after the announcement yesterday of a 77 per cent rise in operating profits

Bunzl spends £75m on buying and plans more

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

BUNZL, the paper and plastics group, hopes to make more acquisitions in the coming months after spending £75 million in the first half of the year.

Anthony Habgood, chairman, said the company was on the lookout for "bolt-ons" and acquisitions which logically expand the company's portfolio. He added that the company was continuing to look at opportunities to cut costs in all areas of the business.

Mr Habgood's comments came as the company reported a 12 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £56 million in the half year to June 30. Sales rose 1 per cent to £887 million.

The interim dividend, payable on January 2, was increased 10 per cent to 2.2p. The results were better than ex-

pected and helped to lift the shares, which ended the day 45p better at 243½p — a new high for the year.

Gearing increased to 20 per cent after the acquisition spree, which included the purchase of Alpha Supplies, a



Habgood: more bolt-ons

cleaning and hygiene products group, for £26 million in May.

Bunzl blamed the modest increase in sales on deflationary pressures caused by the price decline of raw materials. But profit margins continued to increase, rising from 5.8 per cent to 6.3 per cent.

Profits in all divisions increased at a faster rate than sales except in the fine paper business, where profits were flat on decreased turnover. Operating profits in the plastic and paper disposable divisions rose 5 per cent to £33.5 million.

In the filter and tapes division, whose specialty is filters for low-tar cigarettes, profits increased 34 per cent to £9.9 million on a 20 per cent rise in sales.

In the plastic products division, profits rose 10 per cent to

£8 million on sales that were up by 3 per cent.

Sales declined by 4 per cent in the fine paper division after the price of pulp fell by half, causing the price of paper grades to fall dramatically. Profits, however, were maintained at £9.8 million.

Mr Habgood was cautious about the direction of prices, but said the immediate outlook is for increases. He added that the new business in the US and a positive contribution from acquisitions should ensure the company's continued improvement.

He said: "The outlook for prices is uncertain although, at least in the very short term, rises generally appear somewhat more likely than further reductions — even if, in some cases, from very low levels."

Tempos, page 28

Bus sales lift Henlys to record

By FRASER NELSON

INTENSE competition between Britain's bus and coach operators helped Henlys, the car dealer and bus maker, to return record results for the six months to June 30. But the shares fell from 657½p to 620p on a warning that its margins would not continue to grow indefinitely.

Demand for new coaches, including a large order for Stagecoach, lifted operating profits at its bus and coach division by 77 per cent to £14.4 million. However, tight margins in the car sector caught up with Henlys, as its car division struck flat operating profits of £4 million on sales of £173 million (£168 million).

Overall, pre-tax profits were £17.1 million, 48 per cent ahead of last time. Group sales were only 7 per cent higher, at £244 million. Earnings rose from 15.8p to 21.4p per share, from which an interim dividend of 5p (4p) will be paid on September 17.

Builder says land prices overheating

By KEITH RODGERS

PERSIMMON, Britain's fourth largest housebuilder, has seen housing demand in the South improve substantially over the past eight weeks, but warned yesterday that land prices are "overheating" (See Pennington this page).

The company, which bought Ideal Homes in February, said it has seen an upturn in the market in the South East and the South Midlands, and a modest overall improvement in other regions. Duncan Davidson, chairman, said it was on target to achieve 6,000 house sales in the current year. It had sold 640 homes valued at about £50 million in the normally quiet August period.

John White, chief executive, said the market was experiencing "a bit of a silly period" in land prices in the M25 region and at prime locations across the country, with prices in the South East climbing 20 per cent over the past year. The company expects the impact to be cushioned by the size of its landbank. Persimmon reported pre-tax profits

of £14.2 million, before reorganisation costs of £3 million, in the half year to June 30, against a pre-tax profit of £9.7 million previously. Turnover, which included four months' contribution from Ideal, climbed from £115.1 million to £202.5 million. Earnings per share before exceptional costs were 6.6p against 5.3p and the interim dividend remains unchanged at 3p.

Mr Davidson said margins in the continuing Persimmon business had climbed from 9.3 per cent in the second half of 1995 to 10.5 per cent, but stood at 8.7 per cent for the acquired Ideal business. Gearing has been reduced to 40 per cent.

Analysts said they are looking for the company to improve its return over the next year and a half. Persimmon has reduced the combined group's subsidiary offices from 21 to 15, making 230 redundancies. Mr Davidson said the company would consider further acquisitions, particularly in areas where its landbank is weaker.

Firecrest shares halted by AIM

By FRASER NELSON

SHARES in Firecrest, the marketing-to-telecoms company, were suspended from the Alternative Investment Market yesterday, marking what should be the end of its troubled relationship with the junior exchange.

The exit came as Meteor Technology publicly dissociated itself from Firecrest, buying from it the UK distribution rights for the DigPhone internet software. Meteor said that it had now severed all links with its former partner.

Camelot Corporation, a US firm which makes the DigPhone that Meteor now exclusively distributes, effectively washed its hands of Firecrest on Thursday by selling its 10 per cent stake in

the group for £1.3 million. Firecrest has still failed to find a replacement for Singer & Friedlander, its nominated adviser, whose resignation triggered the share suspension. Collins & Stewart, its broker, has also quit.

If no new adviser is found by October 2, Firecrest will become the first company to be removed from the AIM, moving down to Ofsx.

However, last Friday it said that it is in talks with a US company, which may agree to a rescue deal by tabling a takeover offer. Firecrest's shares, which opened at 42p when it joined the AIM, were suspended at 44½p yesterday. They hit a high of 192p last year.

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THE TIMES
CITY DIARY

Christie on his Marks

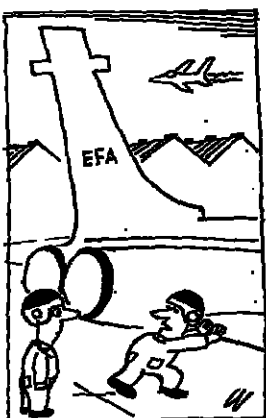
LINFORD CHRISTIE, the Olympic gold medallist, cut a dash through the menswear department on the first day of the new Marks & Spencer on Finsbury Pavement in the City. M&S, which picked the aptly named Councillor Sandie Marks, Mayor of Islington, to open the store, was delighted at the arrival of the sprinter who walked in by chance later in the afternoon, after the company declared it "too costly" to hire a celebrity.

Cautious Christie was not rushing into anything, however. According to the spokeswoman who spotted him at the made-to-measure suits: "He took lots of details — we only hope he's considering a purchase."

Gasbags

AEA TECHNOLOGY, the commercial arm of the Atomic Energy Authority that helps out with decommissioning power stations and dealing with toxic waste, is harbouring assets that emit a strange green glow.

Deep in a warehouse at Winfrith, Dorset, the nuclear technology company has stockpiled millions of tritones, once a must-have piece of domestic technology. BT stopped supplying the tenuous telephones in 1982. AEA Technology is now extracting the tritium gas from the old telephones to sell on to Amersham, the nuclear medicine group.



"It's the first of 14,000 new jobs — push start the Eurofighter"

TrocaPepsi

NOW that the bidding war is over, Nick Leslau, chief executive of Trocadero, can reveal how Pepsi beat stiff competition from Coca-Cola to secure the £3 million sponsorship deal that will turn the Piccadilly entertainment centre a shade of blue. Leslau had it written into the two-year deal that a crate of Pepsi per month be delivered to his offices. "Whether it's the full sugar version or not will depend on whether I'm on a diet," he beams. "It's diet Pepsi at the moment because I'm just too busy to exercise."

Crash landing

BOEING may have announced a bumper aircraft order at Farnborough yesterday but it was also brought down to earth with a bump when it faced the press. The floor at Farnborough's conference centre slumped several inches during Boeing's announcement. The upset also rebounded on arch rival Airbus. Its briefing, due to follow Boeing's, had to be postponed until today.

Clubman

IN THE middle of doing his packing to go away for his holidays, Sir Michael Perry stepped down as chairman of Unilever, while announcing his latest appointment to become non-executive chairman of Dunlop Slazenger. On his way out for a round of golf at Wentworth with the same Dunlop clubs that he acquired in his twenties, the 62-year-old former detergent salesman said he felt something for the "old brand" that survived a



Dick Evans, of British Aerospace, argues it is not economic for individual companies to pump in the heavy resources needed for R&D

Eurofighter points the way for aerospace industry

Michael Evans and Christine Buckley on integrating to challenge US giants

Eurofighter 2000, the £40 billion combat aircraft programme, has taken one more important step towards the full production phase. Britain has led the way in committing itself to financing the production stage in the hope that the three European partners, Germany, Italy and Spain, will soon follow suit.

Since negotiations began in 1983 to develop a European collaborative combat aircraft for the 21st century, EFA, as it was then called, has had some bad moments. Germany looked set to withdraw on several occasions because of rising costs, technical problems arose with the radar and flight control system, and, above all, politics got in the way.

With the Cold War over and defence budgets across Europe facing substantial cuts, there were doubts — though not in Britain — about developing such an advanced expensive aircraft for an era in which the perceived enemy, the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact, no longer existed.

Today, the arguments have changed dramatically. The development of Eurofighter has become caught up in a much bigger debate about the future of the European aerospace business. Since the end of the Cold War, the US has been involved in a comprehensive rationalisation of its defence industry. Already blessed with the advantage of having the largest aerospace industry in the world, the Americans suddenly began to look even leaner and meaner in a market that was fast showing enormous growth potential. Countries in the Pacific Rim, for example, are hungry for aerospace products. Will they turn to America or look towards Europe?

Companies such as British Aerospace, prime contractor in Britain for the Eurofighter programme, and GEC, have realised for some time that unless Europe got its act together, swallowed national differences and developed an integrated industry to compete with the Americans, the giants of the US would win every export contract. The

Eurofighter programme has pointed the way forward. Apart from safeguarding thousands of jobs across Europe, the companies involved, backed by their respective governments, have pioneered manufacturing techniques that will help to make this product and future collaborative products more cost-effective, more efficient and more attractive to potential customers. A senior executive at British Aerospace put it most bluntly. Europe's aerospace industry would die within five years, he said, unless it united into one huge company "to take on the might of the United States. If we are British Aerospace in five years' time, then we have failed," he said. BAE, where Dick Evans is chief executive, argues that it is not economic for individual companies to pump in the heavy resources needed for research and development and then try to compete against the US.

The alarm bells have been ringing following the creation of the world's biggest aerospace company in the US, with the merger of Lockheed, Martin Marietta and Loral — more than four times the size of BAE. This vision of a huge European conglomerate spanning all sectors of the aerospace business from civil aircraft to military jets and missiles and electronics, will never be a reality unless governments give full political backing. Europe has been slower to move towards this concept than the US. But several European governments, in particular Britain, Germany and even France which has always been so protective of its defence industry — the French developed Rafale ignoring appeals to join the Eurofighter programme — realise that a European industrial revolution is crucial for survival. The UK has set up a special committee of the National Defence

Industries Council, with industry leaders represented to look at ways of saving the aerospace industry.

Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, who opened the Farnborough International Air Show yesterday, focused on this issue but added another reason for working towards European aerospace integration. Military products would become more sophisticated and more expensive in the future, he said, and even the giant aerospace industry in America would look for partners. Europe, he said, had to demonstrate to the Americans that it was capable of acting with one voice.

Mr Heseltine said Eurofighter had worked well, but Europe still had the disadvantage of having to cope with different governments, different strategic requirements and different national interests. Ideally, future defence programmes should have a strong, single management, he said, instead of running them by committee, with conflicting management structures. Critics complain that European convergence would create a company or single holding organisation whose power would be overwhelming. Competition would vanish and one organisation would potentially hold sway over the industrial health of involved nations. Companies such as British Aerospace, however, would argue that real competition has already disappeared, with the US giants merging through a series of takeovers.

The vision of a single European aerospace industry is taking shape on the civilian airline side, with Airbus, whose partners are Britain, Germany, Spain and France, positioning itself to take on Boeing head-to-head with the

aim of taking up to 50 per cent of the business, compared with the present 60-30 in Boeing's favour.

The next opportunity for Europe's further consolidation will come with the French privatisation of Thomson CSF, the electronics and defence company. BAE, which recently joined forces with Matra, the French missile firm, will financially back Lagardere, Matra's parent company, in its bid for Thomson.

With Eurofighter's future now seemingly assured — a memorandum of understanding on the production phase is due by February next year — the continuing close collaboration between Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain, should help to push the European governments towards even greater industrial integration. The French must be wishing they had joined the programme when they had the chance.

The aircraft programme has also ensured that the European aerospace industry remains at the forefront of technology, while at the same time demonstrating it can produce an aircraft that is affordable.

When compared with existing combat aircraft, such as the F81, Eurofighter offers 2.5 times the combat capability for the same price. Compared with America's latest fighter, the F22, Eurofighter is less than half the price but offers only 9 per cent combat capability. For these reasons, the nations involved in Eurofighter hope that it will have enormous potential in the export market. This would make a significant return on investment for the four partner nations and also demonstrate to the US that Europe has every intention of remaining in the aerospace business through to the 21st century.

Aerospace is Britain's biggest single manufacturing employer with hundreds of thousands of jobs dependent on its success. Britain and her partners in the aerospace business now realise that unless the European defence industry integrates, the export market can be handed over to the Americans.



ANATOLE KALETSKY

Time to find a new bogymen

The improvement in manufacturing activity reported yesterday by Britain's purchasing managers came as no great surprise to those of us who have always believed that the recent economic slowdown was just a temporary respite, albeit one that could become much worse if the Bank of England prevailed in its demands for higher interest rates.

The purchasing managers' index may not have much of a track record as a leading indicator — in fact, like most confidence surveys, the purchasing managers' opinions have lagged changes in activity as often as led them. But, combined with last week's excellent trade figures, the PMI is another straw in the wind. It suggests not only that the British economy is now expanding quite strongly, but also that the structure of this expansion is about as healthy as anyone could desire.

In saying "anyone" I must, however, exclude the leaders of the Labour Party. When the good trade figures were published last Thursday, Alastair Darling, the party's economic spokesman, made the following remark: "Britain has too small a manufacturing base to sustain growth without a persistent trade deficit."

The Labour Party believes with unshakable conviction that the diabolical trinity of City "short-termism", low investment and Thatcherite greed have doomed Tory Britain to economic perdition. So central is this article of faith to Labour's whole world view that Gordon Brown and his Treasury team simply cannot recognise any fact that might get in the way of their theory. For the past 20 years I have looked on in horror as one Chancellor after another put his crackpot theories to work on the economy — and never mind the facts. Naturally, I am now saddened that the pragmatism and intellectual humility enforced on the Treasury by Kenneth Clarke, will soon disappear.

But wait a moment. Doesn't Mr Darling have some facts on his side? In spite of the recent surge in exports, Britain continues to run a trade deficit of more than £1 billion each month.

The question is whether this "persistent" deficit is any kind of obstacle to economic growth.

The deficit in "visible" goods that Labour harps on about is only one part of Britain's trade. The other is the "invisible" trade in services, which continues to record surpluses of £8 billion or £9 billion annually. If these invisible surpluses are to continue, then either the trade in goods must be in deficit by about the same amount (which it is) or we must run an overall surplus in our balance of payments.

Labour seems to believe that exporting services is somehow less "sustainable", or even virtuous, than making and selling manufactured goods. But how many people, even among Labour's supporters, would prefer their child to work in a factory than an office? And if a service economy is more precarious than one based on manufacturing, why have New York and California proved sustainably more prosperous than Michigan and Alabama, in spite of large and persistent deficits in their visible trade?

Or does Labour want Britain to follow a mercantilist policy of accumulating current account surpluses, in the style of France, Italy and Japan, instead of encouraging economic expansion and reducing unemployment? The mention of unemployment points to the second fallacy in Labour's mercantilist argument.

Britain is today operating nearer its full employment than any other major European economy. Under these circumstances, it would be amazing if Britain did not run a deficit in the current account. If and when Germany, France and Italy adopt more expansionary policies, their exports will surge and Britain's trade deficit will decline further.

With a floating pound, we do not need to squeeze our economy to "improve" the balance of payments, just because our masochistic neighbours choose to squeeze their economies.

Labour had better find a new economic bogymen to frighten our children. Better still they could simply face reality and admit that the British economy is doing quite well.

Sarah Cunningham reports on changing attitudes at the china maker

Wedgwood fired up for rapid growth

Day-trippers arrive at the Wedgwood visitor centre at Barlaston, near Stoke-on-Trent, in their thousands to watch craftsmen and women make, paint and decorate entirely by hand the company's world-famous products. What the visitors do not see, and what would doubtless surprise them, are the machines and robots at work in the factory near by.

The same technology that is used in the most modern car factories is now being used in the production of fine bone china. Already it has meant savings and increases in productivity and profitability for Wedgwood.

The company, which is part of Waterford Wedgwood, the Irish group, has recently installed a French-made robot at Barlaston to stack bone china plates before they are fired. It has also begun using machines that print patterns on plates so that lithographs need not be painstakingly hand-applied; it has fitted fast-fire kilns; it even has a machine that can paint some of the gold detail onto cups.

Under Brian Patterson, Wedgwood's chief executive, and the watchful eye of Tony O'Reilly, the chairman and main shareholder, the company has begun to make changes that previous bosses would never have imagined.

While it still makes its hallmark pale blue Jasper glaze and its very costly and high-quality dinner services, it also produces the lower-priced Wedgwood



China town: a teapot being prepared for hand decorating at the Josiah Wedgwood factory near Stoke-on-Trent

set of results. From a low point in 1992 — in the depths of the recession — when sales dropped below £200 million, Wedgwood's sales last year recovered to £221.8 million. At group level, pre-tax profit has risen steadily each year, from a loss of £17 million in

Having reached this stage, the company is pushing all-out for growth. Dr O'Reilly has told Mr Patterson and the other executive directors in the Waterford Wedgwood group that he wants to see the business double and profits treble by 2000. Mr Patterson

seen when it reports its interim results tomorrow.

Wedgwood, in many ways a quintessentially English company, was bought by Waterford, the Irish crystal makers, in the early Eighties. The china company constitutes

Robots and cost savings usually mean job cuts, and Wedgwood has been no exception. Automation combined with sharply increased outsourcing means that many of the jobs of highly skilled workers, some of them from

3,000 and more jobs will go. For the group as a whole, the workforce is down from 10,000 in 1990 to nearer 7,000. As in so many industries, it is the heavier, traditionally men's, work that is going first.

Automation is set to carry on spreading and the group is also turning its attention to service, which managers admit is "lousy" throughout the industry, with painfully slow delivery times. Brand extension, which has already begun in Japan with tea, coffee and table linen, is also planned.

The turnaround has got analysts and investors on the company's side, but the risk with the "chairman's challenge" is that it looks very much like the sort of hoopla typical of a company emerging from recovery. It could backfire because should the targets not be met, actual achievements may be overlooked.

According to Joe Burnell of Davy, the Dublin-based stockbroker, who is otherwise optimistic about the company's chances, the challenge "is a daunting one for any business, especially so for a company operating in a sector which is growing by not much more than 3 per cent per annum, and it remains to be seen whether it is an achievable ambition."

Most of the visitors to Barlaston neither know nor would care about Dr O'Reilly's challenge and are happy to marvel at the crafts-

BUSINESS LETTERS

Pensions equality lacks political will

From Mr O. M. Jubb

Sir, David Lindsay (Business Letters, August 22) seriously underestimates his case on the affordability of the state pension for men at 60. The official cost of £3.5 billion for equalising the state pension age at 60 grossly overestimates the net cost since, in 1994-95, according to DSS statistics, 1.8 million people over 60 received £8.9 billion in income support, housing benefit and council tax relief. A substantial proportion will have been men aged 60 to 64 simply because they were denied the state pension.

A further, not insubstantial, reduction in the cost of equalisation would come from the income tax payable by the majority of men in that age group on their additional income, if they received the state pension. It is not the cost or lack of funds for equalising the state pension ages that is the problem, but the absence of political will on the part of those whose parliamentary pension scheme does not discriminate on grounds of sex and age.

Yours faithfully,
O. M. JUBB,
6 St Anne's Close,
Pittville, Cheltenham.

Control is all

From Dr Anthony Field

Sir, Bravo Mr Abbott (Business Letters, August 21); I too refuse to use direct debits. I would recommend instead the use of "continuous authority" whereby amounts can be collected from credit card accounts.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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Equities rise in late trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
100	98	Diageo	100.00	+2.0	18.5
105	103	Heineken	105.00	+1.5	19.2
110	108	Carlsberg	110.00	+1.8	20.1
115	113	Asahi	115.00	+2.2	21.0
120	118	Daewoo	120.00	+1.9	22.5

BANKS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
125	123	Barclays	125.00	+1.6	15.8
130	128	HSBC	130.00	+1.4	16.2
135	133	Deutsche	135.00	+1.7	17.1
140	138	Bank of America	140.00	+1.5	18.0
145	143	Wells Fargo	145.00	+1.6	19.5

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
150	148	Asahi	150.00	+1.3	20.5
155	153	Daewoo	155.00	+1.4	21.2
160	158	Carlsberg	160.00	+1.5	22.0
165	163	Heineken	165.00	+1.6	23.1
170	168	Diageo	170.00	+1.7	24.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
175	173	Boeing	175.00	+1.2	25.0
180	178	General Electric	180.00	+1.1	26.5
185	183	IBM	185.00	+1.3	27.0
190	188	Microsoft	190.00	+1.4	28.0
195	193	Oracle	195.00	+1.5	29.0

ENGINEERING VEHICLES

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
200	198	Ford	200.00	+1.0	12.0
205	203	Chrysler	205.00	+1.1	13.5
210	208	General Motors	210.00	+1.2	14.0
215	213	Toyota	215.00	+1.3	15.0
220	218	Volkswagen	220.00	+1.4	16.0

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
225	223	Unilever	225.00	+0.9	17.0
230	228	Nestle	230.00	+1.0	18.0
235	233	Glaxo	235.00	+1.1	19.0
240	238	Roche	240.00	+1.2	20.0
245	243	Schering-Plough	245.00	+1.3	21.0

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
250	248	British Energy	250.00	+0.8	22.0
255	253	EdF	255.00	+0.9	23.0
260	258	Enel	260.00	+1.0	24.0
265	263	Hydro-Quebec	265.00	+1.1	25.0
270	268	Electricite de France	270.00	+1.2	26.0

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
275	273	Intel	275.00	+1.1	27.0
280	278	AMD	280.00	+1.2	28.0
285	283	Motorola	285.00	+1.3	29.0
290	288	Qualcomm	290.00	+1.4	30.0
295	293	Texas Instruments	295.00	+1.5	31.0

HEALTHCARE

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
300	298	Pfizer	300.00	+1.0	32.0
305	303	Merck	305.00	+1.1	33.0
310	308	Novartis	310.00	+1.2	34.0
315	313	Roche	315.00	+1.3	35.0
320	318	Schering-Plough	320.00	+1.4	36.0

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
325	323	Unilever	325.00	+0.9	37.0
330	328	Nestle	330.00	+1.0	38.0
335	333	Glaxo	335.00	+1.1	39.0
340	338	Roche	340.00	+1.2	40.0
345	343	Schering-Plough	345.00	+1.3	41.0

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
350	348	Aviva	350.00	+0.8	42.0
355	353	Prudential	355.00	+0.9	43.0
360	358	MetLife	360.00	+1.0	44.0
365	363	Generale	365.00	+1.1	45.0
370	368	Swiss Re	370.00	+1.2	46.0

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
375	373	Investment Company of America	375.00	+0.7	47.0
380	378	Investment Company of London	380.00	+0.8	48.0
385	383	Investment Company of Europe	385.00	+0.9	49.0
390	388	Investment Company of Asia	390.00	+1.0	50.0
395	393	Investment Company of Africa	395.00	+1.1	51.0

CHEMICALS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
400	398	BASF	400.00	+0.6	52.0
405	403	Chemical Abstracts	405.00	+0.7	53.0
410	408	Chemical Abstracts	410.00	+0.8	54.0
415	413	Chemical Abstracts	415.00	+0.9	55.0
420	418	Chemical Abstracts	420.00	+1.0	56.0

DISTRIBUTORS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
425	423	Deutsche	425.00	+0.5	57.0
430	428	Carlsberg	430.00	+0.6	58.0
435	433	Asahi	435.00	+0.7	59.0
440	438	Daewoo	440.00	+0.8	60.0
445	443	Heineken	445.00	+0.9	61.0

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
450	448	Boeing	450.00	+0.4	62.0
455	453	General Electric	455.00	+0.5	63.0
460	458	IBM	460.00	+0.6	64.0
465	463	Microsoft	465.00	+0.7	65.0
470	468	Oracle	470.00	+0.8	66.0

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
475	473	Ford	475.00	+0.3	67.0
480	478	Chrysler	480.00	+0.4	68.0
485	483	General Motors	485.00	+0.5	69.0
490	488	Toyota	490.00	+0.6	70.0
495	493	Volkswagen	495.00	+0.7	71.0

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
500	498	Unilever	500.00	+0.2	72.0
505	503	Nestle	505.00	+0.3	73.0
510	508	Glaxo	510.00	+0.4	74.0
515	513	Roche	515.00	+0.5	75.0
520	518	Schering-Plough	520.00	+0.6	76.0

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
525	523	Intel	525.00	+0.1	77.0
530	528	AMD	530.00	+0.2	78.0
535	533	Motorola	535.00	+0.3	79.0
540	538	Qualcomm	540.00	+0.4	80.0
545	543	Texas Instruments	545.00	+0.5	81.0

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
550	548	Pfizer	550.00	+0.1	82.0
555	553	Merck	555.00	+0.2	83.0
560	558	Novartis	560.00	+0.3	84.0
565	563	Roche	565.00	+0.4	85.0
570	568	Schering-Plough	570.00	+0.5	86.0

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
575	573	Aviva	575.00	+0.1	87.0
580	578	Prudential	580.00	+0.2	88.0
585	583	MetLife	585.00	+0.3	89.0
590	588	Generale	590.00	+0.4	90.0
595	593	Swiss Re	595.00	+0.5	91.0

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
600	598	Investment Company of America	600.00	+0.1	92.0
605	603	Investment Company of London	605.00	+0.2	93.0
610	608	Investment Company of Europe	610.00	+0.3	94.0
615	613	Investment Company of Asia	615.00	+0.4	95.0
620	618	Investment Company of Africa	620.00	+0.5	96.0

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
625	623	BASF	625.00	+0.1	97.0
630	628	Chemical Abstracts	630.00	+0.2	98.0
635	633	Chemical Abstracts	635.00	+0.3	99.0
640	638	Chemical Abstracts	640.00	+0.4	100.0
645	643	Chemical Abstracts	645.00	+0.5	101.0

PHARMACEUTICALS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
650	648	Pfizer	650.00	+0.2	102.0
655	653	Merck	655.00	+0.3	103.0
660	658	Novartis	660.00	+0.4	104.0
665	663	Roche	665.00	+0.5	105.0
670	668	Schering-Plough	670.00	+0.6	106.0

PRINTING & PAPER

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
675	673	Heidelberg	675.00	+0.1	107.0
680	678	Manitex	680.00	+0.2	108.0
685	683	Wiggins Teape	685.00	+0.3	109.0
690	688	Wiggins Teape	690.00	+0.4	110.0
695	693	Wiggins Teape	695.00	+0.5	111.0

SUPPORT SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
700	698	Heidelberg	700.00	+0.2	112.0
705	703	Manitex	705.00	+0.3	113.0
710	708	Wiggins Teape	710.00	+0.4	114.0
715	713	Wiggins Teape	715.00	+0.5	115.0
720	718	Wiggins Teape	720.00	+0.6	116.0

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
725	723	Anglo American	725.00	+0.1	117.0
730	728	De Beers	730.00	+0.2	118.0
735	733	Platinum Group	735.00	+0.3	119.0
740	738	Platinum Group	740.00	+0.4	120.0
745	743	Platinum Group	745.00	+0.5	121.0

LEISURE & HOTELS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
750	748	Accor Hotels	750.00	+0.1	122.0
755	753	Accor Hotels	755.00	+0.2	123.0
760	758	Accor Hotels	760.00	+0.3	124.0
765	763	Accor Hotels	765.00	+0.4	125.0
770	768	Accor Hotels	770.00	+0.5	126.0

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
775	773	Accor Hotels	775.00	+0.1	127.0
780	778	Accor Hotels	780.00	+0.2	128.0
785	783	Accor Hotels	785.00	+0.3	129.0
790	788	Accor Hotels	790.00	+0.4	130.0
795	793	Accor Hotels	795.00	+0.5	131.0

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
800	798	Telecom France	800.00	+0.1	132.0
805	803	Telecom France	805.00	+0.2	133.0
810	808	Telecom France	810.00	+0.3	134.0
815	813	Telecom France	815.00	+0.4	135.0
820	818	Telecom France	820.00	+0.5	136.0

TEXTILES & APPAREL

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
825	823	Inditex	825.00	+0.1	137.0
830	828	Inditex	830.00	+0.2	138.0
835	833	Inditex	835.00	+0.3	139.0
840	838	Inditex	840.00	+0.4	140.0
845	843	Inditex	845.00	+0.5	141.0

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
850	848	Inditex	850.00	+0.1	142.0
855	853	Inditex	855.00	+0.2	143.0
860	858	Inditex	860.00	+0.3	144.0
865	863	Inditex	865.00	+0.4	145.0
870	868	Inditex	870.00	+0.5	146.0

RETAILERS, FOOD

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
875	873	Inditex	875.00	+0.1	147.0
880	878	Inditex	880.00	+0.2	148.0
885	883	Inditex	885.00	+0.3	149.0</



FUNDING

New moves at the Arts Council: a "stabilisation programme" will change the rules for lottery grants



POP

Björk and Underworld woo Dublin on a night of triumph for dance music

THE TIMES ARTS



THEATRE 1

At Mimos, France's annual festival of mime, the British group Ralf Ralf win the top prize



THEATRE 2

... and there is much to admire, too, in the clowning of Théâtre de la Mezzanine

Ballads beat track to nirvana

POP

Björk/
Underworld
The Point, Dublin

ANY concerns one may have had about the continuing viability of dance music now that Britpop has gone supernova were emphatically laid to rest by two of its most engaging exponents in a thrilling double bill last Friday.

Dubbed *A Night in Front of the Big Speakers*, the show was set up to place one city under a groove and in their different ways both Björk and Underworld did just that. On preliminary DJ duty Howie B set the rave vibes in motion, though when the barefooted, debleached Björk finally did take the stage, the opening salvo was slightly more subdued than expected. It wasn't until the mesmerising *Isobel* that that bewitching Björk magic started in earnest, a spell cast with the aid of an arty backdrop which descended from the ceiling and some impressive lighting, which embelished but never distracted from the songs themselves.

As she swanned impishly around the stage Björk was a bundle of joy to behold: the voice, arguably the most distinctive in pop today, a spine-tingling trill. She sings like someone deeply in love, not just with her boyfriend, but with life itself.

And if some of her accordion-led ballads tried the patience of those who like their beats fast and furious, then they were given ample opportunity later on to shake their makers to Underworld's compulsive, insistent technogroove. Though Karl Hyde possesses the charisma required of a frontman, Underworld are not about personalities: they are about striving for a communal electronic nirvana. And as roughly 14,000 arms flailed to the beat of *Born Slippy*, it was clear that this is what they achieved.

NICK KELLY



Mary Allen: dealing with "a problem in public and potentially political perceptions"

Why we've relented

Mary Allen, of the Arts Council, explains why the rules governing lottery grants are being relaxed

The arts in Britain are suffering from economic schizophrenia. On the one hand large sums of money are being spent on the capital infrastructure; on the other, we see numerous organisations struggling against a tide of rising costs and standstill grants to keep afloat, with increasing deficits and curtailed programmes.

The enormous success of the National Lottery has so far enabled some 800 organisations throughout England to share £500 million for buildings, musical instruments, equipment and public art commissions, as well as investment in film. This has brought a problem in public — and even potentially political — perceptions. If there is so much money coming from the lottery, why is this not diverted to solve problems relating to running costs, or to pay off deficits? Why is one amateur group receiving nearly £1 million for a new building, while the professional theatre down the road does not have the funds to reopen?

The arts world has always been convinced that the National Lottery should not be used to relieve government of its responsibility to support the arts. However, the current imbalance between an annual £250 million from the lottery and £186 million from the taxpayer does not make any easier the task of persuading

the Heritage Secretary, and indeed the Treasury, to reconsider their intention of removing a further £3 million from the Arts Council's grant-in-aid. In the words of the all-party Heritage Select Committee: "the money available to all four Arts Councils should be at the very least, maintained in real terms year by year."

Meanwhile, the Arts Council has devised a means of using lottery money to put arts organisations on a more stable financial footing. Today we launch the pilot phase of an arts stabilisation programme, which derives from a scheme currently in operation in the United States and parts of Canada. It is about enabling arts organisations to take a long-term view of their work and (recognising that, for the foreseeable future, resources from all sources will be limited) making that work more secure and more sustainable. This will be achieved by strengthening an organisation's capacity to change and by building up its financial strength to withstand fluctuations in income.

Before launching a full programme we will be testing aspects in a pilot involving not more than 15 organisations.

Applications are invited from all kinds of organisations, both amateur and professional, provided that they attract an audience of at least 25,000 a year, have been trading for at least five years and are not in receipt of a lottery grant for building purposes.

Financially sound organisations could use stabilisation to develop new artistic work and new income-generating business. Others, facing more uncertain futures in their present scale or location, may want to explore alliances with other organisations, mergers or, where audiences themselves have moved away from their locality, physical relocation.

If admitted to the programme, organisations will qualify for two kinds of help: first, technical assistance to help to develop their own unique stabilisation strategy; second, where appropriate financial assistance to provide the capital necessary to finance its implementation.

It is important to stress that stabilisation is not a matter of paying off debts. It is about strengthening an organisation so that it can better cope with

change, and providing sufficient capital to fund these changes and act as a buffer against fluctuations in income whilst they are taking effect.

At this stage it is almost impossible to put a price tag on the stabilisation programme, but we are thinking of setting aside around £5 million for the pilot phase. Depending on the result of the pilot, we will consider a full programme in September 1997. Initially, stabilisation is being tested in England. However, our colleagues in Scotland and Northern Ireland are keeping a careful watch on our progress and may wish to develop their own scheme. The Heritage Lottery Fund is examining its potential application to the heritage sector.

Later this year a new lottery programme to support work by and for young people, to increase access and invest in new work will be launched. While these new directions will provide additional sustenance for undernourished arts providers, they by no means replace the staple diet of revenue funding. It remains the Arts Council's intention to continue to fight for the restitution of cuts to the grant-in-aid from government, which have amounted to £17 million in real terms over the past three years. Without this we will be unable to enjoy the full fruits of the National Lottery.

Mary Allen is Secretary-General of the Arts Council of England

MIME: Andy Lavender has a handshake and a cheque for British brothers whose inspired gibbering beat the world's wordless best

It is pleasing to report a success on a foreign field, however modest. Mimos, France's annual international mime festival, has just completed its 14th year at the Perigordine town of Périgueux. As usual an assorted group of hacks, your correspondent included, gathered at the end of the festival to award a prize of Fr20,000 to the show deemed most worthy. This year's winner was *The Summit*, presented by the brothers Jonathan and Barnaby Stone, who together comprise the English company Ralf Ralf.

It might seem rather dashing of *les rosbifs* to roll up in

Diplomatic triumph for the burble boys

France, surely the home of physical and visual performance, and whilst the honours from under the noses of 15 other companies. It is even more cavalier to do so with a show nearly ten years old which depends for much of its effect on spoken language.

The Stone brothers developed *The Summit* in 1988

during the meetings between Reagan and Gorbachev. They play a pair of spokesmen from antagonistic factions. Whether addressing the audience in party-political style or disputing with each other, these besuited apparatchiks speak an invented nonsense-language which to my ear sounded like a mangled mixture of Slav and French. By means of this difficult device, the brothers present nuances of passion and antipathy without saying anything of substance. The entire show, then, is a rhetorical flourish, a game with the surfaces of political persuasion.

Its own surface appears as a fairly easy satire on competing dogmas, and as such it is billed as a piece whose relevance is unlikely to dim. In fact *The Summit* also celebrates communication. The show depends upon the exemplary rapport between the brothers, who spar by means of sing-song disputes, chanting, choreographed gesturing, stamping, banging on the table and even acrobatics.

The Summit combines eccentricity, subtlety and precision performance in equal measures. Perhaps Ralf Ralf scooped the honours because the brothers were either sillier or more serious than the various other performers present.

Two of the more solemn shows in the festival acknowledged their debt to *butoh*, a Japanese dance form developed since the Second World War, which pursues archetypal themes by way of movements drawn from older Eastern performance traditions. Thus Maureen Fleming, an American performer, slowly configured her naked body into racked shapes, presenting her interpretation of the *Psyche* and *Eros* myth by way of statuesque poses.

Such a show, painstakingly unhurried, would be sniffed at by metropolitan British audi-

ences for being too po-faced, despite its occasional beauties. But it is a useful indication of the wide expanses of the French performance scene.

Earnestness did seem dominant at this year's festival, even ensnaring a couple of street theatre companies. But one French show, *Chiens de Faience*, presented by Théâtre de la Mezzanine, deserves mention for exhibiting another dominant flaw — having a sense of humour but not knowing what to do with it.

The entire show is presented within a huge picture frame. The setting is a cabin in some unnamed outpost, perhaps in Alaska. Two men inhabit the

room at different times. One wears sunglasses and hangs his underpants on a line. The other wears wooden snowshoes and at one point is swallowed up by the fridge. Towards the end, a moose dangles in mid-air and a bald, naked woman plays a melodeon as the walls of the room fold open.

As you can imagine, such theatre is a gleeful display of surprises and conveys a breezier sense of adventure than much of the work produced on these shores. That said, the very bizarreness of the images becomes predictable and superficial, devoid of the more disturbing qualities of Surrealism proper. Perhaps this was why the Stone brothers are now a few thousand francs better off. They dared to be eccentric but they kept their underpants on — and proved that being silly, serious and skilful is a combination to be treasured.



Ralf Ralf: simultaneously silly, skilful and serious

WORLD PREMIERE THE GENERAL FROM AMERICA

by Richard Nelson

'The action crackles with tension and anxiety'

Evening Standard

'A rich and rare triumph...this is far and away the best new play I've seen all year'

International Herald Tribune

'The performances led by James Laurenson's proud Arnold and Corin Redgrave's cunningly sentimental Washington are always impressive' Time Out

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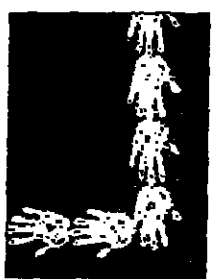
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■ VISUAL ART 1

Sound effects are brought centre-stage in Tacita Dean's installation at the Tate



■ VISUAL ART 2

Paper weights: the Hackney gallery, Flowers East, presents its annual survey of new art

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3

... while, at Camerawork, an enigmatic figure comes and goes in *Sublimar* by Max Fenton



■ TOMORROW

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness? *Times* critics pick the best forthcoming shows



Foley Artist Beryl Mortimer demonstrates various techniques of her dying craft on film in Tacita Dean's absorbing and affectionate exhibition

Pushing open the doors leading to the Tate Gallery's Art Now room, I was assailed by a great surge of sound. Waves, wind and seagulls all hurled themselves at me. Embroiled in high-frequency turbulence, I imagined that the space beyond would contain a visual spectacle to match the acoustic blast overwhelming my eardrums.

As I turned into the room housing Tacita Dean's exhibition, though, my expectations were flouted. The gallery is empty, apart from a tall magnetic tape machine and a brilliantly illuminated display box stretching across most of the far wall, reminiscent of a cinema screen. But it contains words interspersed with diagrams, and close inspection is needed to discover that they are entries written on a dubbing cue-sheet.

These notations only make sense in relation to the footage transmitted by a monitor placed high on another wall. There, the normally unseen makers of the noises filling the gallery are revealed at work. Arrestingly shot and succinctly edited, Dean's film concentrates on two Foley Artists.

Beryl Mortimer and Stan Fierman take their quirky professional name from the original Mr Foley, who concocted sound effects in the pioneering days of film post-production. The tricks he practised may seem laughably archaic now that movie-making technology has become so sophisticated. But the skills of the Foley Artists remain indispensable, and Dean shows just how resourceful they are.

Both Beryl and Stan go about their bizarre tasks in the most matter-of-fact spirit imaginable. He shakes a colossal sheet to simulate thunder. She jumps up and down in high-heeled shoes on a mess of wet newspaper, evoking the sound of someone hurrying through the rain. The polka-dot umbrella in her hand makes another noise, simultaneously. And while she performs her routine, an apocalyptic storm clashes with

Out with a clomp, whir and clunk

VISUAL ART: Richard Cork on the Tate Gallery's bizarre tribute to makers of film sound effects

church bells in the aural maelstrom around her.

Gradually, as we watch the Foley Artists' weird yet precisely calculated antics, Beryl and Stan come to resemble a vintage music-hall double act. They join forces sometimes, doing what amounts to a soft-shoe shuffle as they simulate mushy footfalls on a beach. They clutch, stroke and pull at their own clothes, writhe like demented patients in an asylum and tear up large sheets of paper with aplomb. They open and shut doors without going through them, stamp on cobbles and, in the most surprising moment of all, give the backs of their wrists careful little kisses.

Their contribution to the impact of the film they enhance with such cunning should not be underestimated. But they perform in a vast, deserted Delta Sound Studio at Shepperton, invisible to anyone other than the recording engineer and unacknowledged save on the credits in small print at the film's end.

By highlighting the activities of these unsung survivors from an earlier, pre-electronic era of movie-making, Dean implies that she would lament their passing. So in one sense, she is determined to celebrate them here before it is too late. A similar nostalgic impulse led her to include, in an earlier

work called *Girl Stowaway*, footage of an elderly couple who have perfected the delicate art of putting miniature sailing ships into bottles. Dean relished the sheer strangeness inherent in devoting a lifetime to such an unlikely feat, just as she now admires the oddness of the Foley Artists' dedication to aural trickery.

The near-emptiness of her own space at the Tate echoes the studio used by Beryl and Stan, who seem marooned in the vacant immensity of a room where most of the props are hidden away neatly beneath flaps in the floor. But the studio's bleakness is fitting: it reflects the fact that everything there is dedicated to the ears rather than the eyes.

On another level, then, Dean's exhibition deliberately sacrifices visual stimuli in order to let sound play the dominant role. The noises made by the Foley Artists can have an astonishingly three-dimensional impact, and in this respect their work might be described as a form of sonic sculpture.

Dean certainly gives sound its head. At the beginning of the story dramatised in her show she includes a Shakespearean actor, playing the part of Rumour in Henry IV

Part II: "Open your ears; for which of you will stop the vent of hearing when loud Rumour speaks?" As the back-lit dubbing cue-sheet reveals, Dean's own exploration of "the vent of hearing" made her devise a tantalising tale for the Foley Artists to work on. Having started inside a theatre, it then moves to a pub and a beach pursuit worthy of a thriller before returning to the play. As in *Girl Stowaway*, Dean presents a fragmented narrative, riddled with ambiguity. But the mystery created by the fractured story is subservient to the orchestration of sound.

So the true heroes here are undoubtedly Beryl and Stan who, in their final moments on the monitor, quietly pack up and leave the studio. On the powerful speakers installed in the gallery, though, we hear an audience applauding the Shakespearean players. After the actor's last words, "I will bid you goodnight", an ecstatic roar is followed by vigorous clapping. Dean ensures that the noise accompanies Beryl and Stan out of the studio, giving them — for the first and only time — the rousing public accolade they deserve.

Elsewhere at the Tate, a room devoted to recent acquisitions includes some memorable early 20th-century British sculpture. The earliest is Henri Gaudier-Brzeska's *Amour*, a full-length 1913 carving of a naked youth, pale against a dark-painted boulder from which he seems to have only half-emerged.

Two years later Jacob Epstein produced his astonishing and provocative portrait of Iris Beerbohm Tree. The siren's face is modelled with robust naturalism but Epstein contrasts it with an extraordinary helmet of smooth, highly polished metal which adds a belligerent air. It reminds us that Epstein was simultaneously revising his awesome *Rock Drill*, making the figure of a driller into a wounded elegy on the horrors of the First World War.

● Tacita Dean is at the Tate Gallery (0171-857 8000) until November 10

IT IS difficult to tell that a number of changes have been made to this underground car park. The concrete ruins and ramps and the series of mesh breaks are all so convincingly installed by Jacqueline Penneil that there appears to be little alteration. Unpromising detail on the ceiling has been repeated on the floor to create a series of sections which extend way back in a corridor of symmetrical space. At the far end a mirror stretches from top to bottom to further extend the illusion.

Mirror, Mirror, Rear Window, Sara Lane Studios, Stanway Street, London N1 (0171-759 3707) to Sept 15

ONCE inside the heavy black curtains at the entrance to Camerawork the cinematic outline of a suited man steps forward from out of the darkness. The figure turns, walks away, evaporating suddenly in a blinding flash, only to return moments later. The figure is sometimes replaced by a mirror image photograph of the gallery stretched across

AROUND THE GALLERIES

the far wall. The technology is sophisticated yet subtle; Max Fenton's obvious attempt to combine artistic merit with technical virtuosity brings a sense of disorientation that mostly avoids the literal paraphernalia which often accompanies the special effect. *Sublimar* by Max Fenton, Camerawork, 121 Roman Road, London E2 (0181-980 6256) until Sept 21

A MOTLEY selection of clothing hangs suspended from the ceiling on hangers in the semi-gloom of this disused horse hospital. It is difficult to sort an object from other object in a maze of adulterated and faded fashion fads. A painting of a couture dress by Rachel Kirby hangs from a hanger. "Bunny Girl" fur contraptions by Zoe Stewart fall limp at eye level while a pair of breast-shaped shoes by Saron Hughes sit on the rutted floor. The atmosphere

is thoroughly claustrophobic and confusing as individual work is mixed with overall installation to make a slew of stereotypical sexual signs. *Ride a Cock Horse, The Chamber of Pop Culture, The Horse Hospital, Colonnade, Bloomsbury, London WC1 (0171-713 7370) until Sept 7*

AN INTERNAL breeze seems to waft the cheesecloth which hangs from top to bottom and side to side of this ordinary shopfront window. Nothing particularly strange appears to go on here. Only if you stop will you see that a slight puff lifts the bottom of the curtain and sweeps it along in a delicate swirl or wave as if there were an open window or draught inside. This, the latest in a series of window installations that Maggie Ellenby began four years ago, carries a gentle and tantalising domestic twist. *Breeze*, 106 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (0171-278 7368) to Sept 15

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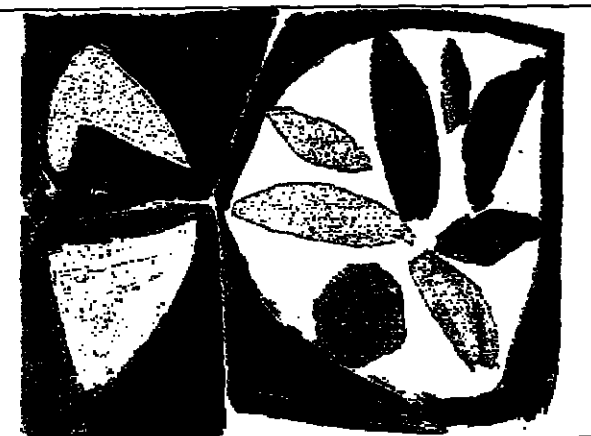
A case for free expression

When I walk round a group show I find myself contemplating two things. One is the function of art and the way it works on our emotions to surprise or seduce or even disgust them by making us focus beyond everyday reality. It could be just a colour or a texture that evokes responses which for each person must, inevitably, be quite different. The other is the huge variety of ways in which contemporary artists feel free to express themselves. This is both the strength of art today and a cause for despair if you miss the point that art is there to be enjoyed, not categorised.

The Hackney gallery Flowers East has got into the swing of organising survey exhibitions of current art, all excellent, and all for sale. In 1994 it was abstract painting and last year abstract sculpture, drawing on the resources of leading London galleries. This year it was going to be abstract drawing but, as visitors to the exhibition will see, it quickly turned into works on paper. The media used range from sunlight on card, pins and dry pigment to the more conventional collage, pastel, oils, printing ink, and so on. Prices start at £220.

Some artists work with the camera by bringing its texture

Isabel Carlisle visits an exuberant show where paper is the medium



An abundance of colour: Strathmiglo by John McLean

making on it. The sculptor Alison Wilding has shaded in the outline of an elephant, as if cast onto a wall in a game of shadows, and added a horizontal pencil line that reaches its tail, outlines its back, descends down its trunk and moves off again on another horizontal to create an abstract mass that is more sculptural than the elephant itself.

Richard Allen has created a work that has the quality of looking at a Venetian blind through half-closed eyes on a

red ground show through the veiling white brushstrokes which, as they are vertical, give a sense of a hanging, like a white muslin curtain. Both of Wilding's and Allen's works are untitled, as are at least half the works in the show, removing the barriers of interpretation between the viewer and the art. Where titles are given they are often of an obscurity that has meaning only for the artist: recollections of entirely personal experiences.

Some artists have given titles that are pointers to a

Porthmeor 1996 is a large sheet of paper painted in white over pale blue and white. Two leaping striped tiger-like shapes meet with fences that could be groins on the beach. The picture evokes qualities of sunlight mixed with water and a natural force that has its own laws and dynamics.

Energy, a furious one, is present in Richard Long's frame of white hands on black paper, dipped in liquid china clay slapped down with such force that sparks fly off them. There is an abundance of colour as well among the works on view: a pure deep blue square of powdered pigment that has illusory depth and form (Sally Musgrove); enfolding and contingent coloured forms, some geometric, some organic (John McLean); an abstraction of iridescent colours — a cross of coral over turquoise, each end stopped with a curved wooden block painted silver, inside a mauve surround with incursions of pale indigo (John Loker).

These are not works to be intellectualised or that necessarily contain any covert meaning. The immediate response is everything and they should be enjoyed for what they are.

● British Abstract Art. Part III. Works on Paper is at Flowers East, 80-82 Richmond Road, London

LAW

● VOWS THAT BIND 37

● LAW AND ACCOUNTS 37

Frances Gibb talks to the head of the new Office for the Supervision of Solicitors



Peter Ross wants a change in the attitude of solicitors to complaints and is pushing for more firms to reform their procedures

Complaints welcomed

Every year 19,000 complaints are made about solicitors — from the public and from solicitors themselves. But, according to the Law Society's own research, two in three complainants are left "very dissatisfied" after the handling of their complaint.

Michael Barnes, the Legal Services Ombudsman who has the task of monitoring how the legal profession handles complaints, says this is "clear evidence that something fundamental is wrong".

Of course, only an optimist, as he put it in his annual report this June, would expect everyone who complained about a solicitor to be satisfied. But such a low figure shouted the need for radical change. In his view, the profession had one "last chance" to put things right — or risk losing its complaints functions to a new statutory body set up by the Government of the day.

This week, the Law Society is seizing that last chance. The much-criticised Solicitors Complaints Bureau — itself set up ten years ago on a tide of discontent about complaints handling — is to be scrapped. A revamped, renamed body comes into being: the Office for the Supervision of Solicitors (Ofsol), with a new head: Peter Ross.

He accepts the ombudsman's comments. "Change is needed," he says. "The world has moved on and become

more customer-focused — we have not. We are not good at communicating, for instance. While everyone else uses the telephone, we have stayed with letters. We are not particularly user-friendly."

This, and the delay in handling complaints, have been the chief criticisms levelled at the bureau by bodies such as the National Consumer Council. A new "front desk" diagnostic team of solicitors at Ofsol will sift all complaints as they come in, and decide swiftly if they can be handled on the telephone; whether they involve "shoddy work", or the more serious breaches of professional rules, and direct them accordingly.

There will be better communication between complainant and solicitor. Another charge has been the bureau's failure to let people know what is happening: some wait months for the outcome of a complaint. "We need early, direct contact," Mr Ross said. "Misunderstandings arise when you have a big paper chase."

Then there will be more central involvement of lay people — non-lawyers — in the handling of complaints. Non-lawyers will chair the committee handling client relations,

but remain a minority on the committee which deals with the more serious matters of breaches of professional rules.

An important step has been the setting up of a new philosophy of "client care". Solicitors are meant to provide in-house complaints procedures; but at least one in four does not. The idea is to devolve complaints, where possible, to solicitors themselves.

Where minor complaints come into Ofsol, they will be sent back to the solicitor's firm to deal with. Mr Ross is keen to see compliance by firms on in-house complaints handling. "Any business anxious about its customers will ensure it has effective complaints handling," he says. "Research has shown that one

disgruntled client could potentially cause the loss of 23 other clients."

But compliance, he emphasises, will not be achieved by "waving a big stick". A pilot project involving 100 firms was carried out. One group was offered help in running complaints procedures; the other left to get on as before.

The first group achieved a 42 per cent reduction in complaints. "Not only did they put a good system in place, they operated it," Mr Ross said.

Where complaints do end up at Ofsol, more will be directed towards its network of local conciliation points around the country, so that complainants can be dealt with "face to face". This method should release more resources for Ofsol to devote to detecting and fighting fraud and default.

This work accounts for just over half of Ofsol's £13.2 million budget. But recent initiatives such as spot checks on firm's accounts and red-alert reporting procedures for firms in trouble have reaped results. The bureau took over some 62 firms last year after solicitors defrauded clients of money. "The consequences are far worse for the client than a delay in replying to a letter. It is just as important to regulate professionalism — this is the foundation of trust between client and solicitor and we ignore it at our peril."

Now the big question, as the ombudsman posed it, is whether Ofsol — still funded as it is by the Law Society (that is, by solicitors) — is able to satisfy complainants any better than the bureau? It has a chance, in his view, if it becomes more consumer-friendly, and if solicitors do more to tackle complaints.

Mr Ross, 41, has a background in prosecuting and most recently was an assistant chief Crown prosecutor in London, managing six branches and 400 staff. He is

undaunted about taking over another body which — like the Crown Prosecution Service — is in the firing line. Rather, he seems to relish the task of bringing about what Mr Barnes called a "culture change" among solicitors.

The task, Mr Barnes said, should not be underestimated. Solicitors had a "natural tendency, precisely because they are lawyers, to adopt a legalistic and defensive stance when faced with complaints". This is in contrast with commerce and industry which see complaints as a valuable source of information about efficiency.

If attitudes do not change, solicitors are likely to lose their powers of self-regulation for good. "We have to take the ombudsman's message on board," Mr Ross says.

Vote for the baby, not the bathwater

A profession which now has a taste for democracy will soon have another opportunity to demonstrate it. Twenty-four solicitors at the Law Society's annual general meeting in July — a sufficient number under the rules — forced a postal ballot of the whole profession on the central question of the society's role.

Although the vote can only, as lawyers say, be persuasive rather than binding, strong support for the view that the job of representing solicitors should be hived off from the Law Society might well be the start of a long journey to a change in its charters.

Will the profession vote for such radical change? The presidential candidate who espoused this view received a level of votes which in a general election would have lost him his deposit. With the opportunity to vote on the single issue of splitting the society's functions, however, voters in larger firms may be presented with a dilemma. Those who have long thought it pursued concerns irrelevant to their interests may be tempted to vote for

high street solicitors with little interest in the problems of large firms and their clients.

So who would represent them? The City of London Law Society? But would the large regional firms accept that the City can express their point of view when Leeds, Manchester and Birmingham (for example) are competitors? More likely is fragmentation. Representation of the profession would be left to disparate interest groups.

What of the other half of the split? The Solicitors Association prospectus argues that the Law Society should no longer carry out representation and should confine its activities to regulation. That would still be paid for by all solicitors. But how would a separate regulatory body have the freedom to act for solicitors in the same way that the society's council does now?

Either the society would become a continuity (instead of occasionally) resented body, by demonstrating that it can be independent of solicitors' interests, or it would be ripe for government takeover — a Securities and

Investments Board for the legal profession, with no obligation to take account of the wishes or pockets of solicitors. Nor would there be democratic accountability; no voting out the governing body if its expenditure rocketed.

Statutory intervention would be relatively easy because bodies exist which could take over the society's regulatory functions. The Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct could take

over these functions. The new Ofsol could mutate into a body completely independent of the Law Society. Solicitors' self-regulation would have ended after 150 years.

And the commercial consequences? The priority of any government-sponsored quango would be even greater consumer protection — no doubt applied across the board. Instead of the targeted approach which the Law Society can take at present, any quango would be likely to increase bureaucratic controls and halt the gradual delegation of regulation to firms. None of this helps the competitive position of the larger firms.

It all seems rather worse than we have at the moment. And it has all been born out of high street frustration that Martin Meers and Robert Sayer could not deliver on their promises — not that the Solicitors Association could do better in that regard. So is the Law Society to be broken up out of pique? As they cast their votes, big firms may be led into temptation — but they should resist it.

ANDREW LOCKLEY

● The author, formerly a senior official at the Law Society, is Head of Professional Services at Irwin Mitchell.

Voters in larger firms may be tempted to do away with the Law Society as we know it

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Simple answer to good
customer relations

THE proposal in the Woolf report and the new Arbitration Act may succeed in streamlining dispute resolution, but most British companies are striving for a better option — avoiding disputes altogether.

Avoidance makes good business sense. A recent survey of 900 in-house lawyers found that companies risk more than money if they fail to write clear and concise contracts. The survey, undertaken by PLC magazine, asked them how their companies manage litigation. It found that nearly 50 per cent of all disputes are with customers and suppliers. Companies commit an average of 23 per cent of their legal departments' resources to managing litigation. Victoria Kershaw, the editor of PLC, says: "Companies that want to reduce the cost of litigation in terms of money and damage to relations with customers and suppliers should start by looking at their contracts."

One of the main functions of any contract is risk allocation. "The risk of litigation can be reduced by identifying key transactions, ensuring that written contracts are used where appropriate and that potential risks are clearly defined."

Ms Kershaw says. "A supply contract should address product specification, remedies for defective goods, delivery time and payment terms."

The legal department of Courtaulds has reviewed its contracts as part of a quality-management programme. Russell Miller, its head of legal services, emphasises the close relationship between product specification, quality control and dispute reduction. "A large proportion of our disputes arise from inadequate product specification. By educating business people about the importance of accurate specifications we hope to reduce disputes with customers and suppliers."

Simplification can also help, especially in relation to relatively small transactions which bear a significant dispute risk by reason of volume. A lot of small claims can be just as damaging as one large one. Rank Xerox has simplified the terms and conditions in its standard customer contracts. The exercise was managed by in-house lawyer Christopher Adams. "Our contracts were so verbose and legalistic, that they almost invited customers to send for their lawyers. We decided

that there was no point in keeping protective measures we rarely invoked."

Rank Xerox was awarded a crystal mark from the Plain English Campaign for new terms which are about a quarter of the old length. Mr Adams says there has been a significant reduction in inquiries with a consequent saving in legal and administrative resources.

Ms Kershaw says: "Contract reviews are part of wider management measures being implemented by companies to reduce the impact of disputes." Other measures include crisis management, product-recall plans and regulatory compliance programmes in areas such as environmental and competition law.

Law firms and insurers have seen the benefits of a preventive approach. Miles Alexander, litigation partner at Simmons & Simmons, says: "Our litigators have started to help clients to establish preventive measures to avoid dispute. We are also advising insurers on legal health-check lists for assessing insurance risk and setting premiums."

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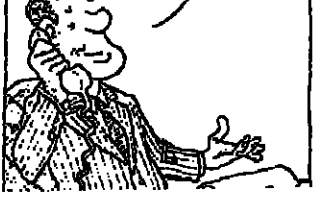
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James D. Zirin on a case in Hawaii that will decide the status of gay marriages in America

Vows that could alter marriage

Who ever supposed that the hottest new issue in the American presidential campaign would be single-sex marriage? Well, it is. Marriage has been called a sacrament, a rite, an estate, an economic partnership, a field of battle, a necessary evil. But descriptions of marriage have classically referred to conventional alliances between a man and a woman.

Things have worked that way since the Garden of Eden. In May 1991, however, three same-sex couples sued the State of Hawaii for denying them marriage licences, and two years later the Supreme Court of Hawaii held that the refusal to issue marriage licences to same-sex couples may violate Hawaii's constitutional prohibition against discrimination based on sex. The court remanded for hearing the issue as to whether the state could prove a "compelling interest" that would justify the denial of the licence.

Just what makes for a "compelling interest" remains undetermined but the state will argue that it includes interests in procreation, expressing disapproval of non-heterosexual sex and preventing Hawaii from becoming a gay marriage mill, with the undesirable impact on the job and housing markets. The proceeding is scheduled for this month, with a decision expected next year.

Up to two-thirds of the population is opposed to gay marriage. Many may wonder how it changes very much in this day and age if two consenting adults get a marriage licence or even if Hawaii becomes a gay marriage mill. Others may feel that same-sex marriage undermines the moral order or is simply a doxy idea. Same-sex couples, however, claim they have more at stake than mere symbols. Married persons enjoy significant economic and legal benefits denied to single persons. These would include tax breaks, family health coverage, inheritance rights, access to social security, pension and veterans'

benefits and the evidentiary privilege against disclosure of spousal communications. There are also the non-economic benefits such as the right to make medical decisions for a sick partner. Such benefits are usually unavailable to same-sex partners.

If Hawaii sanctions same-sex marriage, the national fallout could be apocalyptic. For it is a basic rule of common law that a marriage valid where made is valid everywhere. There is also the requirement of Article IV, Section 1 of the United States Constitution that "Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other State".

Traditionally, this clause has been applied to sister-state judgments but not to licences. For example, a lawyer licensed to practise in New York may not practise in Florida without taking the Bar examination there. Full faith and credit in that instance would not require Florida to give effect to the New York licence. A judgment, however, is on a different footing. New York, where casino gambling is illegal, is required to give effect to a Nevada judgment on a gambling debt. A valid Nevada divorce judgment is valid in New York although Nevada permits quick "no-fault" divorces and New York does not. It remains to be seen whether the courts hold a marriage to be more like a licence to practise a profession having no extrajurisdictional effect, or more like a sister-state judgment that is entitled to full faith and credit.

The extrajurisdictional effect of single-sex marriages valid where celebrated but invalid in the state where the parties live, has not yet been tested. Public policy, as Justice Cardozo once observed, is "an unruly horse". As standards change of what is appropriate public policy, full faith and credit could require that as Hawaii goes, so must go the nation. If the Constitution requires full faith and credit, this could not be legally changed by act of the legislature.



Gay marriages in Hawaii are setting the pace for the American legal system and the constitution

Largely because of fear that Hawaii's action may bind the 49 other states, Senator Don Nickles, Republican of Oklahoma, and Representative Bob Barr, Republican of Georgia, have introduced a measure known as the Defence of Marriage Act, which the proponents claim will ensure that the states and the federal Government do not have to recognise same-sex marriages just because some other state does. The legislation was co-sponsored by Republican presidential candidate and former Senator Bob Dole and has been already approved by a House subcommittee. Other conservative lawmakers have also introduced protective legislation. In New York, for example, a Queens Republican introduced a Bill in the State Senate providing that "a marriage is absolutely void if contracted by two members of the same sex, regard-

less of whether such marriage is recognised or solemnised in another jurisdiction". A memorandum accompanying the measure says that "heterosexual relationships traditionally have worked best for the raising of healthy children. In this sense, homosexual relationships are unnatural."

The debate is reminiscent of the tension between libertarian and religious values seen in the school prayer and abortion issues. The Roman Catholic Church teaches that heterosexual union and its social affirmation are at the core of the possibility of civilisation. Blackstone's *Commentaries* on the Laws of England calls the practice "the infamous crime against nature" so horrible as "not fit to be named among Christians". But the constitution's due process clause

protects those fundamental rights that are "implicit in the concept of ordered liberty".

On the other hand, religious and moral teaching have endorsed the traditional marital relationship. Presidential candidates have claimed they yield the high ground to no one on the issue of family values. But contemporary American society also condemns discrimination of whatever nature and in all its forms.

On the single-sex marriage issue, the state is differentiating between committed homosexual relationships and committed heterosexual relationships on the basis that only heterosexual relationships are reflective of natural law. Whether this is rational or discriminatory will be decided by the Hawaii courts.

● The author, a trial lawyer, is a partner in Brown & Wood, a New York law firm.

Accounts and law add up

A top City law firm has appointed an accountant, reports Jo Carr

Alan Morris is at the vanguard of a new breed of professionals brought in to manage some of the country's top law firms. At 39 he is not only young but also a qualified chartered management accountant and the first non-lawyer to be elected to the post of managing director in a top-ten City firm, Simmons & Simmons.

The fact that the partners had to vote to change the firm's constitution to allow a non-partner to stand for election shows just how fundamental the change is.

Beating off the three partners who then stood against him in the election was much more straightforward, he says: "I have been here seven years so they knew what I could do."

Morris, who takes over next year, gives the impression of a man tired of being told that he is not a lawyer, and is quick to point out that he has an LL.M. Much more important, in his view, is the fact that he has "had the advantage of a whole range of management training at an early age. There is no reason why a lawyer cannot do the job as well, but the things that really score are the exposure to business life and management."

His own on-the-job training came at companies such as Tate & Lyle, Esso, the Royal Bank of Canada and the M.I. Group. Simmons & Simmons has also transformed the way it runs itself over the last five years. When Morris joined in 1988 as deputy head of finance, the firm was run more, he says, as a benevolent dictatorship. He had been approached by a headhunter to join a different law firm, and his old law tutor suggested he approached Simmons & Simmons

before deciding. The then senior partner, Stephen James, invited him to join the firm, saying he was not quite sure what Morris would do, although he was sure they would find something.

In fact he was soon very busy, once he realised that the firm had little in the way of monthly accounting or reporting systems, budgets or financial controls. In implementing the new procedures he learnt a valuable lesson about how law firms operate. "The challenge was to sell the new approach to the partners," he says.

In 1992 the firm brought in management consultants Hodgson & Co. "Some of the findings were difficult for us to take at the time," says Morris. But as a result, he says, the firm has a business plan and a very clear focus on the future.

"At partner level, attitudes have changed. We were not very good at getting teams to work within the firm. But we have been very good at eliminating factions and we are now much more focused on creating a corporate partnership where we pull together."

One clear potential knock-on effect of Morris's background is that he is more open to multidisciplinary practices. In his view, accounting firms offer some clear benefits, including access to a new client base and new sources of capital while allowing a law firm to keep its distinct culture.

But whatever the future holds, he believes that Simmons & Simmons is now very well placed. He says: "The only sustainable competitive advantage in any business is change. I would not say that we are necessarily better equipped for change than other law firms but we are now very well equipped."



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AMERICAN FOOTBALL: LEGEND IN LIMBO AS DOLPHINS BEGIN SEASON WITH UNLIKELY VICTORY

Johnson's bandwagon bypasses Marino

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN MIAMI

JIMMY JOHNSON puffed out his famous fat cheeks until they overshot his ears. Outside, the supporters were still chanting his name as they wended their way through the queues to the Florida Turnpike, many wearing new T-shirts inscribed with the logo "In Jimmy We Trust". Inside, he was busy telling the media how Miami Dolphins had cruised to victory in his first game as head coach by marginalising their most famous player.

If the 24-10 victory over New England Patriots in the National Football League (NFL) on Sunday evening represented

the team's strategy. He made it clear that it was a sacrifice he was prepared to make to pursue his fading dream of crowning his brilliant 14-year career with victory in the Super Bowl.

Marino, 34, holds practically every quarterback record in a sport obsessed with statistics and the smallest detail of each individual performance. He has thrown the most touchdown passes, made the most pass attempts, thrown the most number of successful passes. He has 25 of these records in all. This season, he should also become the first quarterback to throw passes whose aggregate length amounts to more than 50,000 yards.

Don Shula, Johnson's predecessor, knew that Marino was his outstanding asset and moulded his offence around him, throwing the ball at every opportunity and neglecting other parts of the attacking side of the game. Despite his sublime skills, the play was too one-dimensional and Marino could lead the Dolphins to only one Super Bowl, in 1984, when they lost to San Francisco 49ers.

In the 90-degree heat on Sunday, though, things changed. The Dolphins used Karim Abdul-Jabbar, their rookie running back, extensively and with great success. Marino was largely relegated to the role of handing him the ball. None of his team's three touchdowns came from his passing.

"There are three ways we are going to win games," Johnson said. "By running the ball, with our defence and with our kicking. We have a bonus and he was out there



Abdul-Jabbar, the Dolphins running back, exploits a gap in the Patriots line during the match in Miami

wearing the No 13, and he will come up with great passes from time to time, but I do not want to ride Dan Marino hard all the game. He wants to win football games. That is all he cares about. For me, I have had a lot of big, big wins in my career, but this is something special.

When the match was over, Marino, who walks with a limp that is a legacy of countless operations on injured knees, smoothed over any tension that may have existed over the new tactics by presenting Johnson with a match ball in commemoration of his first game in charge of the Dolphins. As he sat in

front of his locker, a stream of journalists asked him if he was worried about his "numbers", the times that he was allowed to pass.

"The only numbers I care about are winning numbers," Marino said. "If I win, I am happy. There will be a number of times this season when we will not be able to run it so good, I am sure, so I will get my chance. At least it should help to protect me from getting hit so many times."

"I don't want to play anywhere else. I just want to play for the Miami Dolphins. I love playing. I want to play for as long as I can. As far as the Super Bowl goes, I hope my

time will come. Hopefully, I will stay healthy long enough to be a part of it."

Miami's crushing of the Patriots was one of the only surprises on an opening day of the season that saw all the teams tipped for success perform efficiently. Green Bay Packers, inspired by Brett Favre, their quarterback, who is recovering from an addition to painkillers, routed Tampa Bay Buccaneers 34-3 and San Francisco 49ers beat New Orleans Saints 27-11, despite an injury to Steve Young, their quarterback.

Baltimore Ravens, the NFL's replacement for Cleveland Browns, won their first

game as the sport returned to the city for the first time since 1983, but the day's hard luck story went to Neil O'Donnell, another quarterback, the man who led Pittsburgh Steelers in the Super Bowl in January, when they were beaten by Dallas Cowboys.

O'Donnell left the Steelers in the summer for a five-year \$25 million (about £16 million) deal with New York Jets, the sport's most parous team. Yesterday, even though the Steelers were soundly beaten by Carolina Panthers, he may have been ruing his decision: he was sacked eight times in the Jets' 31-6 defeat by Denver Broncos.

ICE HOCKEY

Ayr set to build on initial home success

By NORMAN DE MESQUITA

AYR was a happy place to be on Sunday evening. The Centrium Arena, first mooted ten years ago, opened its doors at last and the Ayr Scottish Eagles, the newest recruits to the Superleague, made their home debut in the Benson and Hedges Cup before a capacity crowd of nearly 3,000.

When it first emerged that Ayr was to have a large ice arena, or what passed for one in the mid-1980s, there was great excitement and anticipation that Scotland would again be among the pace-setters in British ice hockey. But while a great deal of money was spent, a number of problems slowed down the construction and it stopped altogether about five years ago.

Then Bill Barr, a construction magnate who is chairman of Ayr United Football Club and an involved member of the community, rescued the project. His unbounded enthusiasm was to be seen everywhere on Sunday and he obviously derived great pride and pleasure from taking part in the opening ceremony.

The arena is bright and well designed with all seats affording an unobstructed view of the whole ice pad. The rink lighting was certainly bright enough to satisfy a television producer who was present and there seemed to be enough refreshment outlets to cope with the sell-out crowd. The car park is large and free and will be the envy of those who watch their ice hockey in Manchester, in particular.

Ice hockey will not be the only attraction and, among future events, are a visit from the Chinese state circus and a motor show. Speed skating and figure skating are also on the agenda and, to encourage youngsters to support the Eagles, there is a scheme for one lucky supporter to travel to South America next January to take part in an international Antarctic expedition. This is being organised by

Robert Swan who, in 1989, became the first man to walk to both Poles.

The only reservation about The Centrium is its size. While a 3,000-seat rink seemed something to get excited about ten years ago, the emergence of Sheffield and Manchester in recent years, makes it seem too small. Barr thinks it is about right for its catchment area, but if the Superleague promotes an upsurge in interest in British ice hockey, he is prepared to think again and expand, or even build something new and bigger.

There was never any danger that Telford Tigers would spoil the party and the Eagles gained a straightforward 8-2 win that would have been far

RESULTS

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Group A: Ayr Scottish Eagles 3 Telford Tigers 2; Kingston Hawks 1 Newcastle Cobras 0; Group B: Cardiff Devils 5 Manchester Storm 1; Group C: Peterborough Pirates 2 Nottingham Panthers 1; 2nd Round: 3 Sheffield Steelers 7 Group D: Bradford Bees 16 Middlesbrough 0; Guisford Pirates 2 Basingstoke Bison 13.

more decisive but for Gavin Armstrong in the Telford goal. Elsewhere in the Benson and Hedges Cup, all the Superleague teams beat their lower-ranked opponents.

A stormy encounter between Ayr's group A rivals, Kingston Hawks and Newcastle Cobras, has culminated in Keith Milne, the Kingston coach, being banned from the bench for the next three games for gross misconduct.

Milne was alleged to have pushed the referee, Jari Lehtonen, from Finland, after the final buzzer signalled a 6-1 victory for Newcastle. Five players were sent off during the match, and Milne said: "The refereeing was brutal and I have lodged an immediate official complaint to the BHA [British Ice Hockey Association]."

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GOLF: STUTTERING START TO PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROVES MORE IS REQUIRED THAN PRODIGIOUS TALENT

Davies on track to claim Rail Classic

LAURA DAVIES, of Great Britain, was two shots off the lead going into the final round of the Rail Classic in Springfield, Illinois, yesterday.

Davies, four times a winner on the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Tour this year, was in a five-way tie for third place on a total of 136 after a second successive round of 68, four under par. "This course is better than I've ever seen it," Davies said. "My plan for the final round is to attack."

Betsy King, of the United States, led the surge on Sunday as seven players were tied for the lead after the second round of the 54-hole event. King, who is looking for her first win since being inducted into the LPGA Hall of Fame in 1995, had a 67.

Joining King at the top of the leaderboard were Alice Miller, Michelle McGann, Barb Whitehead, Denise Killeen, Tracy Kerdyk and Mayumi Hirase. Miller and McGann both had 65s. Whitehead returned a 66. Kerdyk and Hirase had 68s, and Killeen a 70.

Kris Tschetter, the first-round leader, bogeyed the last three holes and finished with a 75. 12 strokes off her career-best opening round.

King had 11 birdies en route to her share of the lead. "I missed a few fairways early and didn't putt that well," she said. "I think you will see a lot of low scores in the final round. Kris did not play as well as she did in the first round and that brought a lot of people back into the tournament. I think 15 or 16 under will win."

Kerdyk made a 45-foot putt at the par three fifth for the longest birdie of the day.

Colin Montgomerie, of Scotland, has fallen one place to sixth in the Sony rankings of the world's leading golfers after finishing ninth in the British Masters. Greg Norman, from Australia, has a clear lead over the pack. Nick Faldo, the other Briton in the top ten, is fourth.

SONY WORLD RANKINGS: 1. G. Norman (Aus) 10.33 pts average, 2. E. Els (SA) 8.93, 3. T. Lehman (US) 8.79, 4. N. Faldo (GB) 8.72, 5. M. O'Connell (Ire) 8.61, 6. C. Montgomerie (GB) 8.56, 7. F. Couples (US) 8.26, 8. C. Pavin (US) 8.16, 9. P. McInnes (US) 7.93, 10. M. O'Meara (US) 7.06



Woods is aware of the pitfalls he could encounter because of his colour and premature wealth in a sport still uncomfortable with prejudices. Photograph: Peter Zuzga

Tiger prepares to earn his stripes

David Miller on a rookie carrying the weight of expectation on his shoulders

The 18th hole at Brown Deer Park, home of the Greater Milwaukee Open, is a broad uphill sweep of 557 yards, a par five. Tiger Woods, playing his first tournament as a professional, covered all but a couple of yards in two strokes, a feat beyond the scope of all but half a dozen of his new, vastly more experienced colleagues. The last seven feet, however, took Woods another two strokes; he misread the line, as he often did over four days — never mind his hole in one on Sunday — and missed his chance of an eagle three.

The \$40 million (about £2m) contract over eight years with Nike sportswear and the \$3 million deal with Titleist over three years which Woods has signed, the biggest sponsorship coup by any rookie in sport, was no help on the putting green. The hole stared at him. The ball trickled past.

Here was the harsh reality of the US PGA Tour. Every shot counts. Among the forest of weathered professionals whom the 20-year-old joined

last week, Woods will no longer enjoy the matchplay that characterises the later rounds of the US Amateur Championship, the title which he won for three successive years after three successive US junior titles.

He was asked if he was ready for failure. "Yes," he said instantly, "every time you step on the course you have failure. I will lose more than I win." Was he afraid of the tour? "I have no fear," he answered steadily. "My decision to turn professional now, two years before the conclusion of his course at Stanford University was made so thoroughly. If it had been made on a whim, I might have fear."

Woods's modest four-round total of 277, 12 strokes behind Loren Roberts, who beat Jerry Kelly in a play-off, earned him \$2,544. He has six more tournaments in which to reach the \$150,000 gross that would exempt him from qualifying for the 1997 tour. "If I don't [make enough], I'll go to qualifying school like everyone else," he said, unabashed.

Turning professional, he insisted, was not about money but about happiness. "I believe my game is good enough. I just want to have fun."

Some might find that statement hard to accept, given the knowledge that Earl, his father, had been busy brokering mega-million deals. Knowing the son little, having watched him in only three leading events, I would trust his word. He gives unfalteringly direct answers, which can be interpreted as arrogant only by those intolerant of youthful confidence. He was, after all, upstaging Bob Hope on the golf course at the age of three.

Yet the pitfalls that lie ahead are many and substantial, and concerned not merely with whether he can broaden his exceptional talents as an amateur on the professional circuit. The odds of that are good, though some say the elastic

speed of his swing will lead to back problems, similar to those of Severiano Ballesteros, by his late twenties.

He is justifiably compared to the previous most illustrious amateurs, Jack Nicklaus and the legendary Bobby Jones, who, in 1930 at the age of 28, won the grand slam of Amateur and Open tournaments of both Britain and the United States. A crowd of 15,000 came to the first day at Milwaukee, and Woods's name put half a million on the television viewing figures.

His length off the tee is prodigious — superior even to John Daly — and is matched by the steadiness of his temperament. Yet Woods is not only the son of an Afro-American father and Thai mother, in a sport still uncomfortable with prejudices, but will encounter resentment from some colleagues. Just as he was once tied to a tree as the only black boy at his school, he will now find himself equally tied to the Nike stake. A target. A 60-second television commercial by Nike. "Hello, world" bestows on Woods a

disagreeably presumptuous manner. Probable involvement with IMG could cause further embarrassment: enriching his earnings ahead of his game. The failures that he admits are inevitable have in advance been made unavoidably more conspicuous. Butch Harmon, his coach, said: "All the amateur titles won't mean anything, he'll have to prove himself in a hard environment where there's no mercy."

Although Woods thinks of himself as multicultural, as opposed to plain black, he is at ease with the racial issue, conscious that it intensifies his public appeal. It gives him an incentive to play better.

"I think it [the appeal] comes from there not being a lot of minorities in golf," he said. "Unfortunately, that's part of golf's history, but no reason for it to be part of golf's future. We [the National Minorities Golf Foundation] want to go into inner cities and teach golf to the youth." He is an echo of Arthur Ashe, a fellow traveller with Michael Jordan.

Yet he can be much more than all of these things if premature fame does not unbalance him. Tom Watson has said he is potentially the most important player to enter the

game for 50 years. The French daily, *Le Figaro*, compared his game to Mozart. Wally Uhllein, president of Titleist, the equipment manufacturer, has said: "When you're looking at athletes who transcend the industry, there's a paucity. Tiger transcends golf. If he's on the cover of *Newsweek*, we're going to benefit from it."

One of this young man's concerns should be his father. Earl Woods, a marine lieutenant-colonel, helped to make his son what he is. He gave him the name Tiger after the courage of a colleague in the Vietnam War. The son is understandably deferential.

Father, however, was in the front row at the 18th on Sunday, dressed as loudly as Master of the Hunt. The son should recognise that he now must steer his own course.

"The strength of my game is my mind," Woods has said, "the weakest part is my experience. I don't know anything about life on the road out here, where to stay, where to eat." And much more. He has a lot to learn on and off the course.

He laughingly said of the Milwaukee event: "I had trouble with everything!" Those who care for the game, recognise his ability, will be hoping that he can master the troubles ahead.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Chorley opt for name change and new home

By Christopher Irvine

CHORLEY began the season as Chorley Chieftains, changed halfway through to Chorley Magpies and have now given up on the town. Their name is to become Central Lancashire next season, based 15 miles up the M6 at Preston North End Football Club.

The club's 200-strong following should fit comfortably into a corner of the 18,000-capacity Deepdale ground, if they can be bothered to make the journey. Tests of loyalty have been a feature of Chorley's seven-year existence, the move to Preston being the latest.

In announcing the ground-sharing deal yesterday, Bryan Gray, the Preston chairman, said summer rugby league would mean year-round use of the facilities, while Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby Football League (RFL) chief executive, said the relocation was in keeping with the policy of taking the game to new areas.

Chorley only regained senior status last season, but were one of three clubs called to account for their playing inadequacies by Lindsay earlier this year. As the Magpies, Chorley improved one place to finish ninth.

The club is not giving up on its birthplace entirely, though. The reserve and academy teams will remain at the inappropriately-named Victory Park.

The RFL is to conduct an inquiry into the crowd disturbance at Kelghley on Sunday during the divisional premiership semi-final against Hull. A man sustained a fractured jaw and a child broken ribs when fending collapsed. There were three arrests.

An apparent surge by Hull supporters demolished an advertising hoarding and people spilt on to the pitch. Alan Mason, the Hull chairman, said: "I am well aware that we have a selection of supporters we would rather not have, but I believe the problems on Sunday were about safety and stewarding."

Trouble at rugby league grounds has been non-existent since isolated incidents in the Eighties. "Clearly, we will investigate the matter," Lindsay said. "We have already called for a detailed report from the match referee [Steve Presley] and have requested the local police to furnish us with a report."

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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

There were two instructive points on this hand, from the EU Championships match between Austria and Great Britain.

Dealer South North-South game IMPs

♠A5
♥AJ105
♦AJ94
♣974
♠K1042
♥K632
♦32
♣K85
♠Q96
♥98
♦KQ108765
♣10

Contract: Five Diamonds by South. Lead: five of clubs

South opened Three Diamonds and North raised to Five Diamonds. For reasons that now escape me, as West I led a club. Senior (East) took the ace and returned the queen; declarer ruffed, crossed to dummy with a diamond, ruffed dummy's last club, and drew the last trump. He then ran the nine of hearts to East's queen. What should East return?

Senior could see that if I had the king of spades I would be squeezed on the run of the diamonds, so he did the best he could for our side by playing a spade. If he plays a heart, declarer cashes a third heart; when the king does not fall he runs the diamonds and I am squeezed in the two-card ending. On the spade switch, declarer put on the queen and I covered with the king. When the declarer subsequently ran off the trumps I was able to

discard all my spades to keep Kxx of hearts, and so the declarer had to lose a spade at the end.

The declarer should have realised that East would not lead away from the king of spades in this position. Had he withheld the queen, I would have been squeezed on the run of trumps. In coming down to three cards, I would not have been able to hold both the king of spades and Kxx of hearts.

□ The London Trophy is a knock-out event for teams of four from non-bridge clubs. It is run by the London Contract Bridge Association and sponsored by Hilton UK, who provide prizes and pay the fees. For details ring 0181 500 0700. Entries close in mid-September.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

GOOGOL
a. A number
b. A sprite
c. A measure of drink

FADGE
a. To mess up
b. A bale of wool
c. A falsehood

DETIN
a. To strip of tin
b. Antiseptic
c. A place of worship
BENAB
a. To steal
b. Bait
c. A shelter

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Original opening

The Latvian grandmaster, Alexei Shirov, who has now signed up to play for Spain, has a remarkable eye for tactical possibilities.

In the following game from the recently concluded Vienna tournament Shirov resorts to an interesting line of the Slav Defence in the opening.

Although White apparently gains a grip on the queen's flank from an early stage, Shirov exploits the unusual central configuration to launch a blistering counter-attack, which ultimately wipes White from the board.

After a period of virtually unremitting success in elite tournaments, Kramnik has now suffered two relative setbacks, both at Novgorod, and at Vienna. In the latter tournament he started off with two successive losses, against both Karpov, and in the following game, and only a conclusive burst of three wins, kept him in the upper half of the tournament.

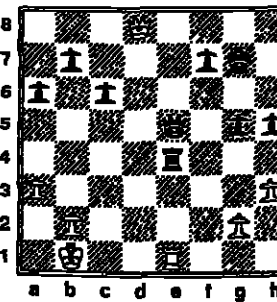
White: Vladimir Kramnik
Black: Alexei Shirov
Bank of Austria, Vienna, August 1996

Slav Defence
1 Nf3 d5
2 d4 c6
3 c4 Nf6
4 Nc3 a6
5 e5 Bf5
6 Qb3 Nbd7
7 Bf4 Nc7
8 h3 h6
9 a3 g5
10 Bb2 Bg7
11 Ne5 0-0
12 f3 Nxe5
13 Bxe5 Nd7
14 Bxg7 Kxg7

15 e4 dxe4
16 Be4 Bg6
17 0-0-0 e5
18 Qc4 Qf6
19 dxe5 Nxe5
20 Qd4 Rxe8
21 Qe3 Rad8
22 Be2 Qe7
23 Rf1 Nd7
24 Qd4+ Nf6
25 Qe3 Qe5
26 Bf3 h5
27 e3 Rf6
28 Rxd8 Rxd8
29 Bf1 Rd4
30 Bc2 Rf4
31 Kd1 Rxc5
32 Qd2 Rf4
33 Qe5 Nxe4
34 Bxe4 Bxe4+
35 Nxe4 Rxe4

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel. 01376 32127) at £6.99 plus p&hp.

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Kellstab - Ulrich, Berlin 1929. Black has a very constricted position with all his pieces, but his queen, stuck on the back row. Can you work out the tactical sequence which White now used to arrive at a winning position?

Solution on page 46

Rowell to focus on coaching duties

By DAVID HANDS

THE Rugby Football Union (RFU), which has not been short of problems this year, will focus with some relief on the game's playing side today when it announces a re-shaped management structure for England. A change of emphasis will confirm Jack Rowell's place at the head of the coaching structure. Don Rutherford, the RFU's technical director, will take over certain managerial aspects.

At the same time, the opportunity arises for further discussion of England's playing programme, regardless of whether they still have a role in the five nations' championship. The International Rugby Board's tours committee meets in Dublin today and tomorrow and the RFU will seek to confirm arrangements with the southern-hemisphere powers.

It already has a five-year structure in place with Australia; it is understood that New Zealand will shortly follow suit, and both England and France are pursuing regular meetings with South Africa, which could be played in February or March. France have an agreement with the Celtic nations not to play England during that period in the event of the RFU being expelled from the five nations, but it would not take too much tinkering with dates for the three countries to acquire a tri-nation tournament.

Will Carling, the former England captain, is likely to have his wish to play at stand-off half granted by Harlequins when they play Cardiff on September 11 in the Anglo-Welsh championship. "There is every chance he will play there," Dick Best, the club's director of rugby, said yesterday. Carling has already acquired one new role this season, that of goalkicker for Harlequins.

However, Simon Geoghegan, the Bath and Ireland wing, will not be so fortunate. His playing horizons are very limited over the next three months because he requires yet further surgery to his left foot and could miss the pre-Christmas internationals with Western Samoa and Australia. He flies to San Diego this weekend for an operation.

Hill admits his judgment was wrong

When you have money, friends flock to your side. When you have not, you cut your cloth accordingly, but Richard Hill, the former Bath and England scrum half, has discovered that he trimmed too close to the margins on Saturday. His selective policy of selection on behalf of Gloucester has rebounded on him.

Nor that Hill has anything to hide. As director of rugby at Kingsholm, he has recruited within his very limited means during the summer, aware that the quality of player that he can realistically choose bears no comparison with the international cavalry who have galloped into the moneyed ranks of Bath, Harlequins, Wasps and Richmond.

He has plotted the season, noted the matches in the Courage Clubs Championship that he realistically expects Gloucester to win and conceded that there are others in which his youngsters have

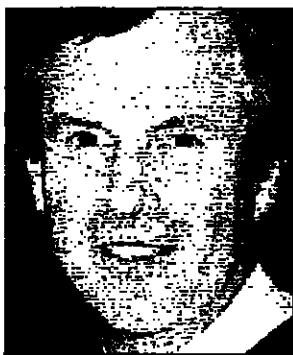
little prospect. The first of those was at the Stoop Memorial Ground last Saturday, when Hill chose something close to a second XV, which was duly beaten 75-19 by Harlequins.

He might have anticipated the backlash that duly arrived. Club elders, supporters, other club officials, the administrators of the championship, all have reason to grieve and many have done so. Hill said yesterday: "In hindsight, what I did on Saturday was not the right thing. I had the best of intentions and I thought it was a good idea, but I have learnt a harsh lesson."

Hill is charged with keeping Gloucester in the first division, and he knows better than most by how much his team falls short of those with championship aspirations. Indeed, rival coaches have shown that they appreciate his position.

"It's very difficult for Richard, and I understand the principle behind his thinking."

DAVID HANDS



Rugby Union Commentary

Dick Best, the director of rugby at Harlequins, said: "He has limited resources and he has to save his best for the games he thinks he can win, but to do it cold-bloodedly at the start of the season might have surprised some people."

Indeed it did, notably in a city which last month began a membership drive and which today is due to announce a new club sponsor in the shape of Westbury Homes.

It is hard to sell rugby to potential spectators and backers if, at the same time, you tell them that they will not see the best players on the pitch every week — particularly in Gloucester, where the rugby club has been a source of considerable pride for more than a century. Not only that, Gloucestershire, in common with nearly everyone else this season, are being invited to pay more to watch their rugby, to help to pay rocketing wage bills, and they, not unreasonably, expect value for their money.

Hill achieved a fund of goodwill last season when he moved from Bath and helped the club to stave off relegation — even if the fight proved unnecessary after it was agreed that no club would be

demoted — but, last Saturday, he tested his popularity to the limit and the competition regulations: those approved by the Rugby Football Union and those of the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs (Epruc), who are now charged with running the first and second divisions.

Both require clubs to turn out their bona fide first XV; Epruc calls for the "strongest possible" sides for league matches and it does not need a long memory to recall incidents as recently as last season when clubs were accused of bringing the game into disrepute by fielding weakened sides. Now Harlequins have 75 points in the bag, which may make a difference between a place in the top European competition in eight months' time, or even the league title.

Equally, the points conceded by Gloucester may make the difference between staying up or going down.

Laughter at the Coliseum

A Night at the Opera. Radio 4 (FM), 10.00am.

Title and general hilarity apart, Lesley Garrett's guided tour of the English Opera Company's home at the London Coliseum has nothing to do with the Marx Brothers. By profession, Garrett is an opera soprano, by nature, one of nature's cheerleaders. Anything and everything sets her off. It could be somewhere like the wig-maker's den, the dress designer's quarters, or the canteen where, we are told, singers don't order dairy products because they make the voice sound froggy. Or it could be the place where you would least expect Garrett to find anything to laugh about — her dressing room, with its peeling plaster and cascading wall tiles.

Jesus Bids Us Shine. Radio 2, 9.00pm.

Robert Raikes, the founder of Sunday schools, gets short shrift in Hazel Bradley's otherwise detailed account of the movement: just a few words about him at the start and a mention at the end. But what matters is that Raikes's brainchild grew up robustly thanks in small measure to a diet of marvellous songs. To name just a few: *Tell Me the Old, Old Story* and *All Things Bright and Beautiful*. Hazel Bradley is not exaggerating when she says that the values taught at Sunday school became the building blocks from which many children earlier this century constructed the rest of their lives. Her programme is studded with hymns and songs from the Choir of 1996 Music School in Belfast.

Peter Daville



Bowlers from Oxford City and County and Wickford BL of Essex measure up in the first round of the triples at Royal Leamington Spa yesterday

ENGINEERING DISASTERS.



PM

Ashford-Hull takes first national title

By DAVID RHYS JONES

MARGARET Ashford-Hull, a Beccles bowler, who has devoted a lifetime to the administration of her sport, and is the only woman to have served as the national president indoors and out, won her first national title at Royal Leamington Spa yesterday. She beat Catherine Anton, an outdoor international, in the final of the Double Century Sherry EWBA two-wood singles championship.

Ashford-Hull, 60, a farmer — "I'm a farmer, not a farmer's wife" — from Aldeby in Suffolk, shed a tear or two after her exciting, 14-12 win over Anton, from Peterborough, who is 29 years her junior.

Anton trailed 4-10 after 12 ends, but fought back well to take the lead for the first time at 12-11 after 18 ends. Dropping a shot on the 19th, she nevertheless looked poised to take control at 12-12, when Ashford-Hull played her worst end of the match.

With Ashford-Hull's first bowl more than two yards through, and her second five feet short, Anton merely had to roll her last bowl to within a yard or so of the jack to count a double. But she changed her hand, missed her green, and pushed the Suffolk bowl in for shot.

"I thought I had done the

hard bit by overhauling Margaret just in the nick of time, but I played a trash bowl on the penultimate end," Anton said.

"I stood on the mat, and thought of what my dad would say, changed my hand, and played the forehand. All I had to do was take enough green, but the wood went away badly, and I knew instantly that I was going to give the shot away. I had been on top form in the semi-final, but for some reason I felt nervous in the final."

Instead of going into the last end with a two-shot advantage, Anton found herself one shot adrift, and was further troubled when Ashford-Hull put her first bowl within a foot of the jack.

Bravely attempting a difficult take out for a winning double, Anton, who ironically had received the trophy from Ashford-Hull when she won the title in 1989, over-greased her bowl and sailed past her object. She smiled stoically and shook hands.

Earlier, Anton had beaten Katherine Hawes, her young Oxfordshire rival, 16-6, while Ashford-Hull had defeated Aimee Truran, who was born in the Philippines, but plays for the St Francis club in Haywards Heath, West Sussex, 14-8.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 42

GOOGOL

(a) A number. A fanciful name for ten raised to the hundredth power. The word was invented by a child who was asked to think up a name for a very large number. *Astounding Science Fiction*: "George Brown was the only one who came within a googol of light years of guessing what they were."

FADGE

(b) A bale of wool. A loosely filled woolpack. P. McBryer: "He usually cut a fine figure, but in his somewhat ill-fitting shorts and crumpled shirt, my good friend, Diesel Court, took on the pathetic shape of a soggy fadge, tied up with binder twine in the rain."

DETIN

(a) To strip of tin, a specialist activity that one can live a full life without ever being called upon to perform. *The Times*, 1992: "Scrap metal suitable for detinning."

BENAB

(c) A shelter. Also *benaboo*. In Guyana, a shelter made of a framework of poles, covered with branches and leaves. P. Caplan: "Women sat outside the benabs, socking babies and grinding cassava."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Ng6! b6g2 Rch7! 3 Qh3! Nh6 4 b6g6! Kxg6 5 Qd7 and White will win easily.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo 6.30am Dave Pearce 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa (Anson) 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Gino Fim 10.00 Mark Lamer 12.00 Clara Surges 4.00am Clive Warren

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.20pm Debbie Thorne 3.00 Alex Lester 5.05 Paul Heiney 7.00 Hayes Over Britain 8.30 The Elephant Man (26) 9.00 Jesus Bids Us Shine See Choice 10.00 Thea Water Sarah Kennedy talks to the actress Julia Sawalha and her actor husband Nadim 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 David Alan

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl 5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00 The Breakfast Programme incl at 6.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, with Diana Madh, incl 10.35 News from Europe 12.00 Midday with Mark, and 12.35pm Moneycheck 2.05 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News from Europe, incl at 7.20 Sports Bulletin 7.35 The Tuesday Match, with Mark Pougatch. Coverage of the night's football action including Arsenal v Chelsea; Blackburn v Leeds; and Wimbledon v Spurs 10.05 News Talk, with Nigel Cassidy 11.00 Night Extra, with Valerie Sanderson 12.05am After House, with Vincent Hanna 2.05 Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Rautum 3.00 Tommy Boyd 5.00 Peter Dinkley 7.00 Sports Zone 10.00 James White 1.00am Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour 5.30am Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 The World Today 7.30 Anything Goes 8.15 On the Shelf 8.30 New Ideas 8.50 Exit — Pursued by a Bear 9.15 Thirty-Minute Drama. The End of Louisiana Brumby 9.45 Good Books 10.05 Business 10.15 Brain of Brian 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.30 BBC English 11.45 On the Shelf 12.30pm Menden Feature 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Countdown 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack: Hi Let 4.05 Sports Roundup 4.15 BBC English 4.30 News in German 5.30 Business 5.45 Britain Today 6.10 World Today 6.25 Vocabox 6.30 News in German 7.30 Countdown 8.01 Proms '96 8.25 Words of Faith 9.30 Megamix 10.05 Business 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Menden Feature 11.30 World Today 11.45 Sports Roundup 12.15am Vocabox 12.15 Pop the Question 12.30 Megamix 1.30 Folk Routes 1.45 Britain Today 2.30 Outlook 2.55 Words of Faith 3.30 Menden 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Mike Read 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Shorris 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto, Gordon Jacobs (Bassoon Concerto) 3.00 James Crick 6.00 Classic Newsnight, with Jane Marchant 6.30 Sonata, J.S. Bach (Recorder Sonata No 1 in G minor) 7.00 The Opera Guide, with Hugh Macpherson 8.00 Evening Concerto Pachelbel (Canon in D), Borodin (String Quartet No 2 in D); Schubert (String Quartet in C) 10.00 Michael Mapon, incl at 11.35 Nocturne 1.00am Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Horne 7.00 Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Jeremy Clark

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, includes Bach (Trio Sonata in D minor, BWV526); Krumpholtz (Dance Suite for jazz band and orchestra); Carlos Baguer (Sonata No 13 in E flat); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in C sharp minor, Op 27 No 2, Moonlight) 9.00 Morning Collection, with Catherine Young, includes Beethoven (Romance No 1 in G, Op 40); Poulenc (Two Intermezzi) 10.00 Musical Encounters, includes Liszt (Pienseroso, Années de Pénitence); Beethoven (Op 121a); Haydn (Piano Sonata in G minor); Beethoven (Op 121b); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in G, Op 40); Poulenc (Two Intermezzi) 1.00pm The BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, under Jane Glover, with Rita Culis, soprano, Catherine Wyn-Rogers, contralto, Robin Leggate, tenor, Stafford Dean, bass and the Huddersfield Choral Society. Beethoven (Mass in D) 2.30 Ensemble, includes Constantine (Children's Pieces, excerpts); Rameau (Les Cyclopes); L'Enfance des Muses; Shostakovich (Piano Suite No 3); Suite (Gymnopédie No 2) (r) 3.15 The BBC Orchestra, The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, under Horia Andreescu, with Steven Osborne, piano, includes Tchaikovsky (March Slave); Schumann (Piano Concerto in A minor); Rachmaninov (Symphony No 1 in D minor)

5.00 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson (r) 5.15 In Tune, with Natalie Whelan. (Nocturne, A Midsummer Night's Dream); Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 2 in F); Faust (Souvenirs de Bayreuth); Poulenc (Mass in G) 7.00 BBC Proms 1996, Live from the Albert Hall. The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, under Simon Rattle, Alfred Brendel, piano. Berlioz (Overture La coccarde); Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 5 in E flat, Emperor); 7.55 Alfred Brendel talks to Stephen Plaistow about Beethoven and about his piano concertos in particular 8.15 Proms Part 2, Tippett (Fantasia Concertante on a Theme of Corelli); Haydn (Symphony No 88 in G) 9.25 The Fortunate Cat Home and Away (2/5) 9.35 The Corelli Connection, includes Corelli (Trio Sonata in B minor, Op 3 No 4); Bach (Fugue in B minor on a Theme by Corelli, BWV579); Telemann (Sonata Corelliana No 4 in E) 10.00 BBC Proms 1996, The BBC Singers, under Stephen Cleobury, includes Victoria (Tenebrae Responses for Good Friday); James MacMillan (Mairi); Victoria (Tenebrae Responses for Holy Saturday); Britten (Sacred and Profane) 11.30 Composer Of the Week: Brahms (r) 12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fairweather 1.00 Through the Night, with David Comet

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) 6.00 News Briefing incl Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today incl 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Family Life — Birth, Death and the Whole Damn Thing (2/5) 8.55 Weather 9.00 News 9.55 Call Nick Ross: 0171-580 4444 10.00 News: A Night at the Opera (FM). See Choice 10.10 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Woman's Hour 11.30 Medicine Now, with Geoff Watts 12.00 News: You And Yours, with Lesley Riddoch 12.25pm Word of Mouth. The series about words and the way we speak. Presented by Russell Davies 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World At One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; Books and Company. John Walsh returns with the programme dedicated to books and their readers (r) 2.30 Just the Part. Times critic Rodney Miles talks to the tenor Dennis O'Neill about the role of Gustavus in Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera* (2/5) 3.00 The Afternoon Shift 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Allen reads After Hannibal, the latest novel from the Booker Prize winner Barry Unsworth. Plus a review of the David Nash exhibition in Leeds 4.45 Short Story: Someone Suitable, by Lela Keys. Mole's comfortable life is

challenged when her glamorous old school friend, Paru, comes to stay. But is Paru's life as happy as she makes out? Read by Sacha Drucher 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 A Whole New Ball Game. The first part of Martin Davies's comedy, with Desmond Barri, Brenda Blethyn and Richard Pearce (r) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Relative Values: The Joneses of Millford Haven. Richard Jones thoroughly approves of his former wife's partner and wants them to marry. But church law says they can't (5/4) 8.00 Science Now. Professor Steven Rose unlocks the secrets of the brain (r) 9.00 In Touch. Peter White with news, views and information for visually impaired people 9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.55 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Enigma. Samuel West reads Robert Harris's thriller (7/12) 11.00 Mediuwewe. The week's media events (r) 11.30 Mirrored in Music. The Armenian violinist Levon Chilingirian talks about the spirit of his homeland (5/6) (r) 12.00 News incl 12.27am approx Weather 12.30 Late Story: Some Kind of Black. Amin Moggi reads Djan Adebaye's novel (2/10) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6. LW 136; MW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. UK. MW 1053, 1068. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dwar, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

سكربت الاصل

You wait ages for a new series, and then...

Who was it who sang the song *I Don't Like Mondays*? No prizes, I'm afraid. Remember... it's just for fun. No? It was, of course, Bob Geldof, former Boomtown Rat, former husband of Paula Yates and still one of the guiding lights behind Planet 24, the company that makes *The Big Breakfast* for Channel 4. But more of him, or rather that, in a moment.

Normally, I don't mind Mondays but I'm prepared to make an exception for ones such as yesterday. It was a television reviewer's worst nightmare. The first weekday in September is traditionally a busy one, but boosted by the BBC's decision to revamp its daytime schedule it became ridiculous. No fewer than 25 new series started yesterday. So if you counted the new look given to *The Big Breakfast*, I set my alarm clock.

Not having begun the day on Channel 4 before (even for Gaby

Roslin I had a self-imposed 8.30am watershed), I can only presume that the opening titles are as new as everything else. If so, it should be pointed out that they now bear a strong resemblance to some once used by TV-am. Still, I don't suppose anybody working at *The Big Breakfast* is old enough to remember TV-am.

What else was new? Ah yes, the makeover of Lock-keeper's Cottage was finally unveiled. The old brick cottages from which the programme is presented have been given a Bauhaus look. In other words... they look just like a television studio. "And down there is the lounge," said Sharon Davies, peering down at an airy lightwell, "but we call it the den." Guess what they had in the den? Sofas. Mould-breaking stuff.

Davies (chosen for the job apparently on the strength of her poolside flirting with Des Lynam during the Olympic Games) has

been paired up with Rick Adams, a young man on whom the word "zany" has clearly made a lasting impression. Adams is both younger and shorter than Davies, which breaks so many broadcasting conventions that it might just work. But I wouldn't bet on it. Yesterday's opening show (at least the bits I saw) was pretty much the traditional disaster that all new breakfast formats use, with the chemistry between the nervous presenters - sexual or otherwise - conspicuous by its absence. Countdown to relaunch? About six weeks, I'd say.

I know what you're thinking: one down, 25 to go. But don't worry, after my early start I faded fast, disheartened by the discovery that of those 25 new series, no fewer than five were new cookery programmes, four from the BBC (including the return of the superb *Ready, Steady, Cook* -

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

hurrah). For novelty I went for ITV's lunchtime offering, the oh-so-slightly-named *Quisine*. Some novelty. This was a BBC show, only with commercial breaks. It was presented by Chris Kelly, who may have cut his broadcasting teeth on ITV's *Clapperboard* but is now best known as the genial host of BBC's *Food and Drink*, while the cooking was done by Nick Naim, a

regular on *Ready, Steady, Cook* and whose own series, *Wild Harvest*, has just finished its run on BBC2. Just to rub sea-salt in it, he popped up on BBC1 two hours later, to provide the answer to *Who'll Make the Pudding?*

The programme's question and answer format (*Quisine*, that is) is undoubtedly eccentric. Where else would you find ten questions based on the recipe for vegetable samosa? But it is also modestly instructive and moderately engaging. My favourite round was "Stock the Larder", which allows contestants to come out with truly wonderful lines such as "I'm a curd for five please, Chris" or "groundnuts for 15". By comparison, "I'll have a B please, Bob" looks positively tame.

Two down, 24 to go. Oh forget it, I have saved the best until last. Or rather I will, once I have told you that *The Upper Hand* (ITV) returned with a worrying lack of

laughs and that a new series of *Cutting Edge* (Channel 4) got under way with an almost over-the-top but eventually thought-provoking look at *The Sexupole Business*. The thought it provoked in me was: why on earth is unpredictable hormone fertility treatment offered to women who already have one child? As the great Delia Smith once said: "One is fun." Six, as this made clear, were not.

But drat, I'm running out of room to tell you about the best programme of the day and probably the week. It was *Absolutely Ballroom* (BBC2), a one-off riposte to Channel 4's excellent *Strictly Dancing*. This was the absorbing story of how the Ystrad Mynach junior formation dance team got their men.

Quite why the young men of this South Wales town were ever reluctant to trip the light fantastic with eight beautiful young women

who wear short skirts and gold high heels (by choice, look you) eludes me. Probably something to do with video games. But eventually they were dragged, high-kicking and hardly screaming at all once they saw their prospective partners, to the neighbourhood dance school. Their mission? To master the rudiments of the cha-cha-cha and pasodoble in six weeks.

The film exuded charm, helped by the unfashionable but forgivable technique of deliberately sagging much of the action for the cameras. It was, however, a shame that this included the new team's big moment, when they finally unveiled the finished routine in Cardiff. We never did find out what happened in that neon-lit sports hall. Instead we were treated to (and possibly cheated by) a fantasy sequence on a smoke-layered, artfully-lit dancefloor. That apart, director Suzanne Phillips did not put a foot wrong.

6.00am Business Breakfast (5834)
7.00am Breakfast News (61512)
9.00am Breakfast News Extra (595593)
9.20am Style Challenge (890647) 9.45 *Kilroy* (1660593) 10.30 *Can't Cook, Won't Cook* (47357)

11.00am News and weather (459425)
11.05am Shadows of the Heart (2/2) (5607964) Includes at 12.00 News and weather

12.50pm Mary Berry's Ultimate Cakes (1942899)
1.00pm News and weather (71999)
1.30pm Regional News and weather (4580223)

1.40pm Neighbours (3297022) 2.00 *Call My Bluff* (6545715) 2.35 *Turnabout* (1174593)

3.00pm The Terrace, Mike Reid fronts a twice-weekly DIY/design show, from Birmingham (3339)
4.30pm Moonin' (8485067) 3.50 *Little Mouse on the Prairie* (8485983) 4.15 *The All New Popcorn Show* (7970938) 4.45 *Ocean Odyssey* (1188070) 5.00 *Newsround* (Ceelex) (7278086) 5.10 *Byker Grove* (Ceelex) (5281845)

5.35pm Neighbours (s) (224777)
6.00pm News (Ceelex) and *weather* (77)
6.30pm Regional News Magazine (57)

7.30pm EastEnders, A face from the past turns up to surprise Cindy and David (Ceelex) (141)

8.00pm 999 Lifesavers, Michael Buerk and Juliet Morris return with more extraordinary true stories focusing on youthful courage and bravery (Ceelex) (s) (1339)

8.30pm Big Break Trick Shots (Ceelex) (s) (3195)
9.00pm Nine O'Clock News, Regional News and weather (Ceelex) (4883)

9.30pm After the Break, Award-winning Northern Ireland entertainer Patrick Kelly hosts a humorous show looking at television advertising (46116)

10.00pm Crimewatch UK, Nick Ross and Jill Dando ask for viewers' help in solving crimes (Ceelex) (s) (629628)

10.45pm FILM: Out on a Limb (1992), Frantic comedy. Manhattan stockbroker Bill Campbell is just about to sew up the biggest deal of his life when a call from his sister prompts a series of disasters to befall him. With Matthew Broderick, directed by Francis Veber (Ceelex) (6106796)

12.05am Crimewatch UK Update (Ceelex) (s) (3574723)
12.15pm FILM: The Doberman Gang (1972), Animal comedy adventure. A group of bumbling crooks decide the best way to eliminate all human error is to train a gang of fierce doberman dogs to carry out their crimes. Directed by David Chudnow (3829617)

1.40-1.45pm Weather (7249636)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder to watch a particular programme. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ is a trademark of Gemstar Development Ltd.

6.00pm Open University: Electronics and Atoms (2686593) 6.25 *Paris and the New Mathematics* (2686528) 6.50 *Samples of Analysis* (3640131)

7.15pm See Hear Breakfast News (8077222)
7.30pm Alvin and the Chipmunks (9323512) 7.55 *Blue Peter* (Ceelex) (2588048) 8.20 *Charlie Chalk* (8472715) 8.35 *Lassie* (2940222)

9.00pm See Hear (48715) 9.30 *Blitz on Cartooning* (53408)
10.00pm Playdays (3143932) 10.25 *On the Road Again* (3153319)

10.55pm A Question of Sport's Golden Oldies (1088593)
11.25pm Wisley Through the Seasons: Summer (6198864)

12.15pm Young Man and His Dog (2118048)
1.00pm The Perfect Ploke Programme (s) (22241) 1.30 *Working Lunch* (56693) 2.00 *Charlie Chalk* (50444319)

2.15pm FILM: Home Fires Burning (1998), Second World War drama. Directed by Glenn Jordan (27198)

3.55pm News (Ceelex) (4188222)
4.00pm The Day (70) 4.30 *Ready, Steady, Cook* (54) 5.00 *The Oprah Winfrey Show* (863222) 5.40 *A Week to Remember* (b/w) (198816) 5.50 *Lifeline* (Ceelex) (s) (933574)

6.00pm Fresh Prince of Bel Air: The Ethnic Tip (226796)
6.25pm Heartbreak High (Ceelex) (124715)

7.10pm The O Zone Special, Jayne Midland and Jamie Theakston go backstage at Knebworth, scene of Oasis's recent concert. Jamie and Jayne discover just how nervous the bands get before they go on stage in front of 100,000 fans (879222)

7.30pm The Chemistry of Almost Everything: Creation, A series that investigates the way chemistry affects our lives (63)



Love-hate relationships (8.00pm)

8.00pm Picture This: Who Do I Love the Most? Seven pairs of brothers and sisters talk about the pains and pleasures of sibling rivalry (Ceelex) (s) (2830)

8.30pm Tracks, Highlights from the documentary series about the countryside (Ceelex) (1715)

9.00pm Steptoe and Son, Classic comedy with Wilfrid Brambell and Harry H. Corbett (2425)

9.30pm The Gurkhas, Film about the British Army regiment (71932)

10.30pm Newsnight (398406)
11.15pm Gardens of the Mind, A look at the landscape art of the late Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe, interviewed here on his 90th birthday (s) (944999)

12.00pm Growing Places (3986758)
12.30-6.00pm Learning Zone

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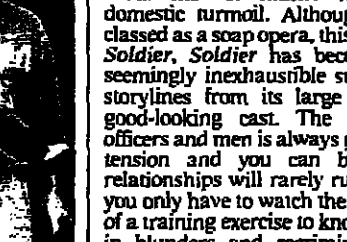
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6.00am GMTV (9488715)
9.25pm Supermarket Sweep (Teletext) (s) (7356208) 9.55 *Regional News* (Teletext) (3160609) 10.00 *The Time ... the Place* (s) (2031357) 10.35 *This Morning* (4856593)

12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (7543048)
12.30pm ITN News (Teletext) (2640883)
12.55pm Shortland Street (2625574) 1.25 *High Road* (2758870) 2.00 *Home and Away* (97231970) 2.25 *Quisine* (9727777)

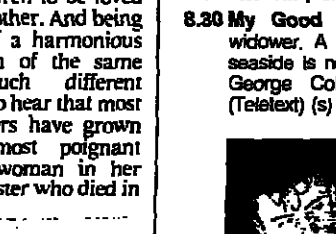
2.50pm Vanessa: A Hunk of Britain, Vanessa Feltz explores real-life issues (Teletext) (s) (9724036)
3.20pm News (Teletext) (7253154) 3.25 *Regional News* (Teletext) (7352425)

3.30pm Ozzy the Owl (s) (5530357) 3.40 *Tots TV* (s) (4768593) 3.50 *Hot Rod Dogs* (s) (8501845) 4.05 *Walt Disney Cartoon* (2325832) 4.15 *Transylvania Pet Shop* (Teletext) (s) (7952033) 4.40 *Goggle Watch* (Teletext) (8950808)

5.10pm Bruce's Price is Right (7174280)
5.40pm ITN News (Teletext), (389654)
6.00pm Home and Away (s) (Teletext) (s) (45)
6.30pm Regional News (Teletext) (25)

7.00pm Emmerdale, Viv and Terry find that three is a crowd (Teletext) (8408)
7.30pm West West: Cotswold Water Park, David Bellamy and Nick Baker visit the park and see Exmoor ponies, stonehenge and skylarks (39)

8.00pm The Bill (Teletext) (6406)
8.30pm My Good Friend, Sit-com about a widower. A wet and windy day at the seaside is not Harry's idea of fun. With George Cole and Lesley Vickerage (Teletext) (s) (8241)



The King's Own face danger (8.00pm)

9.00pm Soldier, Soldier, Drama series about Army life. Forsythe's decision to marry his black lover results in a near-death experience for the boys of the King's Own. A series reveals that Steve is up to his old tricks and a pregnancy test yields surprising results (Teletext) (s) (7222)

10.00pm ITN News at Ten (Teletext) (24406)
10.30pm Regional News (Teletext) (513338)
10.40pm The 10th Anniversary, Set in a London talent agency (Teletext) (s) (310777)

11.10pm FILM: The Monster Squad (1987), Horror comedy. Five youngsters find themselves up against the combined might of Dracula, the Mummy, the Gill Man and Frankenstein's Monster. Andre Gower, Robby Kiger and Stephen Macht. Directed by Fred Dekker (609154)

12.35pm Nationwide Football League Extra (181267) 1.25 *FILM: Panhandle* (1987) 3.00 *Life and Loud* (49426) 4.00 *The Chart Show* (2042365) 4.50 *Sound Bites* (60355948) 5.00 *Hot Sports* (13100)

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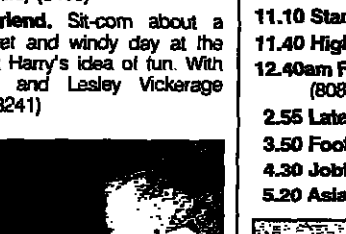
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5.30pm News (46723)

6.00am GMTV (9488715)
9.25pm Supermarket Sweep (Teletext) (s) (7356208) 9.55 *Regional News* (Teletext) (3160609) 10.00 *The Time ... the Place* (s) (2031357) 10.35 *This Morning* (4856593)

12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (7543048)
12.30pm ITN News (Teletext) (2640883)
12.55pm Shortland Street (2625574) 1.25 *High Road* (2758870) 2.00 *Home and Away* (97231970) 2.25 *Quisine* (9727777)

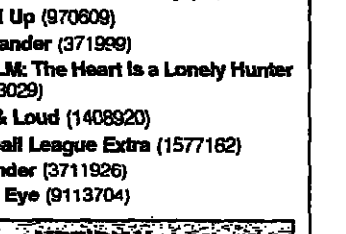
2.50pm Vanessa: A Hunk of Britain, Vanessa Feltz explores real-life issues (Teletext) (s) (9724036)
3.20pm News (Teletext) (7253154) 3.25 *Regional News* (Teletext) (7352425)

3.30pm Ozzy the Owl (s) (5530357) 3.40 *Tots TV* (s) (4768593) 3.50 *Hot Rod Dogs* (s) (8501845) 4.05 *Walt Disney Cartoon* (2325832) 4.15 *Transylvania Pet Shop* (Teletext) (s) (7952033) 4.40 *Goggle Watch* (Teletext) (8950808)

5.10pm Bruce's Price is Right (7174280)
5.40pm ITN News (Teletext), (389654)
6.00pm Home and Away (s) (Teletext) (s) (45)
6.30pm Regional News (Teletext) (25)

7.00pm Emmerdale, Viv and Terry find that three is a crowd (Teletext) (8408)
7.30pm West West: Cotswold Water Park, David Bellamy and Nick Baker visit the park and see Exmoor ponies, stonehenge and skylarks (39)

8.00pm The Bill (Teletext) (6406)
8.30pm My Good Friend, Sit-com about a widower. A wet and windy day at the seaside is not Harry's idea of fun. With George Cole and Lesley Vickerage (Teletext) (s) (8241)



The King's Own face danger (8.00pm)

9.00pm Soldier, Soldier, Drama series about Army life. Forsythe's decision to marry his black lover results in a near-death experience for the boys of the King's Own. A series reveals that Steve is up to his old tricks and a pregnancy test yields surprising results (Teletext) (s) (7222)

10.00pm ITN News at Ten (Teletext) (24406)
10.30pm Regional News (Teletext) (513338)
10.40pm The 10th Anniversary, Set in a London talent agency (Teletext) (s) (310777)

11.10pm FILM: The Monster Squad (1987), Horror comedy. Five youngsters find themselves up against the combined might of Dracula, the Mummy, the Gill Man and Frankenstein's Monster. Andre Gower, Robby Kiger and Stephen Macht. Directed by Fred Dekker (609154)

12.35pm Nationwide Football League Extra (181267) 1.25 *FILM: Panhandle* (1987) 3.00 *Life and Loud* (49426) 4.00 *The Chart Show* (2



AMERICAN FOOTBALL 41

Passing of time catches up with Marino in Miami

SPORT

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3 1996

CRICKET 44

Illingworth's last chance to clear up fine old mess



Survival

Veteran Edberg stands between young Briton and quarter-finals

Henman soars to new heights

FROM DAVID MILLER
IN NEW YORK

TO BECOME a hero, he has to beat a hero. For Tim Henman, who will be 22 on Friday, to emulate his Wimbledon achievement two months ago and reach the quarter-finals of the US Open, he must tomorrow defeat his practice partner from London, Stefan Edberg, champion here in 1991 and 1992, but unseeded this year. The prospect is well within the compass of Britain's accelerating meteor.

Henman may not yet be in the service-power category of Mark Philippoussis, his Australian contemporary — who will be 20 in November and meets Pete Sampras, the No 1 seed — yet Henman's comprehensive reversal of his straight-sets defeat by Todd Martin at Wimbledon, winning his first match on Flushing Meadows' centre court by

Hinges comes of age 45
Results 45

6-2, 7-6, 6-4, carried an authority that reduced the noisy, chauvinist crowd to near silence. This was no fluke, but the product of maturing skills.

The last Briton in the fourth round of the US Open was John Lloyd, who reached the quarter-finals in 1984, losing to Jimmy Connors. Lloyd was the last British finalist in any grand-slam event, in Australia in 1977 when he lost to Vitas Gerulaitis. There is every reason to believe that Henman can become the most accomplished British men's player since the era of Perry, Austin and Hughes before the war.

David Felgate, the Lawn Tennis Association's director of men's tennis and Henman's personal coach, said after the late-night victory under floodlights that he considered it an improvement on the victory over Kafelnikov in the first round at Wimbledon. Americans had not heard of Henman. They have now. Even the CBS television commentators were caught off guard by his composure, as indeed was Martin, the No 12 seed. John McEnroe, the best media analyst since Jack Kramer, had wondered how



Henman reaches to make a forehand return during his victory over Martin that avenged his defeat in the quarter-final at Wimbledon

Henman would fare on the synthetic surface, compared with Wimbledon's grass. Martin was quickly to discover that hard courts are Henman's favourite surface; that he can stay back and trade ground strokes as comfortably as coming to the net.

There was speculation that a problem with Martin's right elbow, which was heavily strapped, would affect his

service strength. Afterwards, Martin sportingly refused to hide behind any excuse. "The elbow felt fine," he said. "The only problem was... playing without a real good serve against a guy who is aggressive. The first set he jumped on me pretty quickly, and by the time I got up, it was pretty late in the second set."

Martin's service may have been marginally reduced in pace, to some 100mph, but he put 68 per cent of his first serves in court, 17 per cent more than Henman, and hit seven aces to Henman's four. "I think the reason for the drop in the level of my play is because of the way Tim played," Martin reflected. "He lost focus a little bit, missed a few first serves when he needed them, but that was matched by his ability to rise to the occasion — the sign of a very good player."

Never did Henman's resolve flicker. Not when he double faulted to lose his service, allowing Martin to break back for 2-2 in the second set; not when break point down again two games later; not when two set points down at 5-4 and not even when foot-faulted on second service three points later in the same game, which he eventually rescued.

Henman agreed that his

service was patchy, even though there were times when the ball was flying at around 120mph. Two such services secured a second set tie-break, a superb forehand return down the line having just given him a point on Martin's service to lead 5-4. At Wimbledon, it had been Martin who won tie-breaks to take the first two sets, then the third by 6-4. "I think the other parts of

my game, where I was hitting the ball off the ground, my volleys, were what really won it for me," Henman said. "Having said that, 5-4 in the tie-break was a good time to come up with two big serves." In the first set, Henman had bitten his rival's heels for the first time when breaking for 3-2 on a couple of backhand rallies from 30-all. Martin making two backhand errors.

But Martin discovered he was really under assault when two superb forehand drives by Henman brought another two break points, Martin going 2-5 down on another faulty backhand. Henman broke his opponent for the third time in a row to lead 1-0 in the second set, but from 2-0 he played three uncertain games to trail 3-2. He did not fully regretter himself until saving the set point and levelling for 5-5.

Another early service break saw him lead 3-0 in the third set and, though a double fault allowed Martin to break back for 4-3, Henman's temperament, the level eye with which he regarded his opponent, remained as steady as ever.

He struck a marvellous forehand pass to lead 5-4. On Martin's service in the next game, Henman hit an extraordinary, blind backhand smash that left his rival gapping, and after a double fault had given Henman match point, he secured it with a crisp forehand. It had been impressive stuff.

It will be Henman's first match against Edberg, 30, a player who has been an inspiration and on whom he has modelled much of his play. Now will be the moment to reveal just how much he has learnt from those hours of practice together.



Martin refused to use his heavily-strapped elbow as an excuse for his comprehensive third-round defeat

Silent Hill is still in demand

BY OLIVER HOLT

DAMON HILL spent yesterday at home in Dublin pondering the question of how, when he arrives in Monza on Thursday for the Italian Grand Prix, to conduct the post-mortem into the circumstances of his sacking by Frank Williams. Even as he speaks, another press conference is likely to be held at the circuit where the son of an undertaker will administer the last rites for his Williams career.

Sources in Germany said yesterday that Williams have chosen the day when Hill will speak for the first time about their sudden split to announce formally what everybody already knows, that they have signed Heinz-Harald Frentzen, the driver who used to work in his father's funeral home, as replacement for the Englishman next season.

Frentzen, 29, who has competed in 45 Grands Prix for the Swiss Sauber team and was rated more highly than Michael Schumacher when they drove together in German Formula 3, is thought to have secured a two-year deal

worth £4 million a year, an agreement which has prompted speculation that it could be a carrot to entice the German engine manufacturer, BMW, to join Williams in 1998 after the departure of Renault.

Hill will not break his silence on his own future until he arrives in Italy, but speculation was growing yesterday that his position near the top of the Formula One ladder could be maintained next season by a shock move to Ferrari as the team-mate of his great rival, Schumacher.



Frentzen: highly rated

Eddie Irvine, the popular and talented Ulsterman, who is Schumacher's current partner, recently signed a one-year extension to this year's contract. It was being suggested yesterday, however, that if Irvine's interests could be looked after, then some factions at Ferrari who are said to be unhappy with his performances, would jump at the chance of taking Hill. Schumacher is believed to be receptive to the idea too, because his contract assures him of number one status in the team.

Bernie Ecclestone, the president of the Formula One constructor's association, gave Hill another boost yesterday when he said it would be a matter of regret if the Englishman was not to find a place in one of the other top three teams. Part of his thinking, no doubt, centred on the desirability of the continuance of Hill's high profile struggle with Schumacher, especially in light of ITV's recent payment of £70 million for the British rights to the sport for five years.

"It would be a pity to see Damon driving somewhere

where he would not be competitive," Ecclestone said. "He could be very important for a team and a sponsor because he has a good following now."

"He is capable of winning races. His record shows that. I only feel sorry for him insofar as if Frank had made his decision already, perhaps he could have told Damon a little earlier because there is not much of a market."

Jordan, and the fledgling Stewart Grand Prix team, both expressed cautious interest in Hill yesterday, and a drive alongside David Coulthard at McLaren is still a possibility. Hill was even given a vote of support by the team that has discarded him.

"As far as the team are concerned," a Williams spokeswoman said, "Damon will be given 100% support in the remaining races, as will Jacques Villeneuve. They will be given the same equipment and the same support, as has been the case throughout the season."

Hill leads Villeneuve by 13 points in the race for the driver's title with three Grands Prix to go.

Hartford not impressed by City offer

BY DAVID MADDOCK

MANCHESTER City have a ship at the centre of their emblem, but, at the moment, the club appears rudderless. The sense of indecision heightened yesterday with news that yet another candidate for the position of manager has ruled himself out.

Asa Hartford, the assistant manager, will take charge of the team for the Nationwide League first division fixture against Charlton Athletic tonight, and only at the weekend he was told by Francis Lee, the chairman, that the job could be his permanently, should results underline his ability in the manager's seat vacated by Alan Ball.

Hartford, a former City player, has, however, no appetite for a vacancy that is proving increasingly difficult to fill. Hartford is barely qualified for the job at a club still regarded among the more powerful in England, his track record an ordinary one at Stockport County and Shrewsbury Town, but the refusal illustrates the problems that Lee is now faced with.

"I vowed never to take another manager's job, and I have no desire to go into the job at City," Hartford said. "I haven't applied for it, and any implication that I am interested in it is wrong. The problem is, of course, that a new manager could come in and I could be out of work, but the manager's job has changed so much in football over the past few years, and it's not for me."

Hartford conceded that the struggle facing anyone who should accept the challenge at Maine Road is an uphill one. Such difficulties mean that City are no nearer replacing Ball than when he lost the support of Lee and resigned last Monday evening. George Graham has turned down an offer from the City board and it is believed that Steve Coppell, the director of football at Crystal Palace, also proved unresponsive to an approach.

Howard Kendall, the Sheffield United manager, ruled himself out yesterday, although Lee was quick to stress that he had made no approach to either him or Dave Bassett, his predecessor at Bramall Lane.

"We have not spoken to Howard Kendall, contrary to reports," he said. "We have not made any contact with

him or Dave Bassett, and we will not be doing so."

With Graham, Kenny Dalglish, Coppell, Kendall and now, apparently, Bassett ruled out, there are few names left on the list originally drawn up after Ball's departure.

Lee was in London yesterday, and has made at least one attempt to persuade Graham to change his mind, but he may now have to accept that the big-name manager that he craves can simply not be attracted to the club, and, instead, set his sights lower, with promising young candidates such as Danny Wilson, Steve McMahon and Alan Curbishley coming into the running. Lou Macari is another name frequently mentioned around Maine Road.

Graeme Souness, the Southampton manager, has com-

Roy Keane is likely to miss Manchester United's opening European Cup Champions' League match away to Juventus tomorrow week. Keane's recovery from a knee operation has been slower than expected. United will also be without Philip Neville and Eric Cantona for the FA Carling Premiership match away to Derby County tomorrow.

pleted the signing of Klaus Lundekvam, the Norway international, for £400,000. He will make his debut against Nottingham Forest in the FA Carling Premiership at The Dell tomorrow. Lundekvam, 23, who has been capped five times, trained with Southampton yesterday after signing a three-year contract.

It was Souness's second significant signing in a week, after he secured Robbie Slater from West Ham United for £250,000 on Friday; there could be a third by the weekend.

Lawrie McMenemy, the director of football at Southampton, said: "Graeme Souness promised us new signings when he arrived at the club and that's exactly what has happened — and there will be more to come. He is working on it at the moment and he is very keen to sign one player in the very near future who would be a record signing for the club."

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Surviving the holiday hangover

Feeling glum and depressed as you sit at your desk after two glorious weeks away from it all? You are not alone, says Giles Coren

Tired? Stressed? Demotivated? Behind with your work? Feel like you could use a holiday? Exactly. We're all in the same boat — largely because we have just got off one. Or if not a boat then a plane. For there is nothing more likely to make you depressed about your job, than returning to it after a wonderful, relaxing, liberating holiday.

For most of the history of mankind the received wisdom has been that a holiday refreshes you. That it allows you to shake off the pressures and worries of the workplace, and return to your desk reinvigorated, ready to face the challenges of the coming year. But a malaise is sweeping Britain in the 1990s which threatens that long held preconception.

The holiday hangover is a very real problem, easily explained and with symptoms any jaded employee will recognise. Lying there in the shade of a Tuscan olive tree you began to see your life in perspective. The air was clear, the view was beautiful, the weather was fine, the food was healthy and consumed at leisure. Why is it that you spend two weeks a year like this, and the other 50 inhaling carbon monoxide, looking at wet tarmac and eating curly sandwiches? Society has it all the wrong way round, you realised. This is no way to live. When you get home you will set about making a few changes.

Or, perhaps, you were by the sea. Every morning you swam a mile before breakfast. You felt fit and alive. When you return you will swim every morning before work, and the beauty of your life will be mirrored by the beauty of your newly fit body.

Or you read, lazily, all day, every day. You felt re-educated, and refreshed by the poetry of the great writers. There is no reason why you should not fit in an hour's reading after work each day. You will do it, and it will give a new depth to your quotidian humdrum.

But you come back and you do not read. You do not swim. The days go by and you forget about the Tuscan olive trees. You just push paper around and sweat over profit margins. For three days everyone says, "Wow, you look great!" and then you begin to turn a pallid, orange-grey colour, and they start saying, "God, you look terrible. I thought you went away."

Worst of all is that strange self-respect you develop when you are away from the office. You begin to see your life more organically. You realise that you are not the humble dog-everybody you have felt all year. There is more to you: you are a

traveller, an imbibor of culture, you understand foreign ways of life and appreciate architecture. You have met new people and, maybe, had a little holiday romance. You are glamorous, and fun to be with. When you go back to the office you will not be pushed around. They are lucky to have you, and you will fit your job into your life from now on, not the other way around.

You think it every year, don't you? And it never, ever, turns out like that. Two weeks after your return you bump into someone you haven't seen for a while and they ask you how the holiday was. You can hardly remember. You don't want to talk about it anymore. The photos come back, you can't bear to look. Other people are going away now, and you hate them for it.

You are more cowed by responsibility, more depressed, and less productive when you return than before

'Received wisdom is that a break refreshes you'

you went. And you just don't know why.

Cary Cooper, Professor of organisational psychology at Manchester University's Institute of Science and Technology, specialises in the field of stress at work, and he knows exactly why.

It is a reality in the 1990s that people spend the first week or two after a holiday feeling extremely depressed," he says. "The reason for this is that we are working harder than ever before. We work the longest hours in Europe and the cost has been enormous: job insecurity, a more frenetic lifestyle, and terrible demands created by faxes, e-mail and mobile telephones.

"We have no time to evaluate what we are doing, and it is only when we go on holiday that we realise what we have been missing, the price we have paid."

He is not kidding. Think, for example, of all those times when you have got talking with someone who works at your holiday destination. The sun-tanned, bleach-haired windsurfing instructor for example. For a couple of days the realisation is fended off by intellectual snobbery. "Oh, I could never feel fulfilled doing that all year round," you

think. And for a while you take solace in his measly salary, believing you have made a cunning trade off for your car, home, designer underpants and yukky plant.

But then you realise how happy he is. How he goes south in winter to work on yachts in the Caribbean. How he lives day to day, hand to mouth, finding a bed where he can, writing poetry by night, and providing sexual solace for weary young heiresses. And you want it, all of it.

"While there are obvious benefits to a holiday," says Professor Cooper, "the contrast they provide with the rest of our lives can be disastrous. Twenty years ago we would not have been having this conversation — things have changed."

What we need, then, is a solution. Professor Cooper suggests that we work shorter hours and protect our leisure time from the intrusion of work. But is there anything specific we can do about the holiday hangover itself?

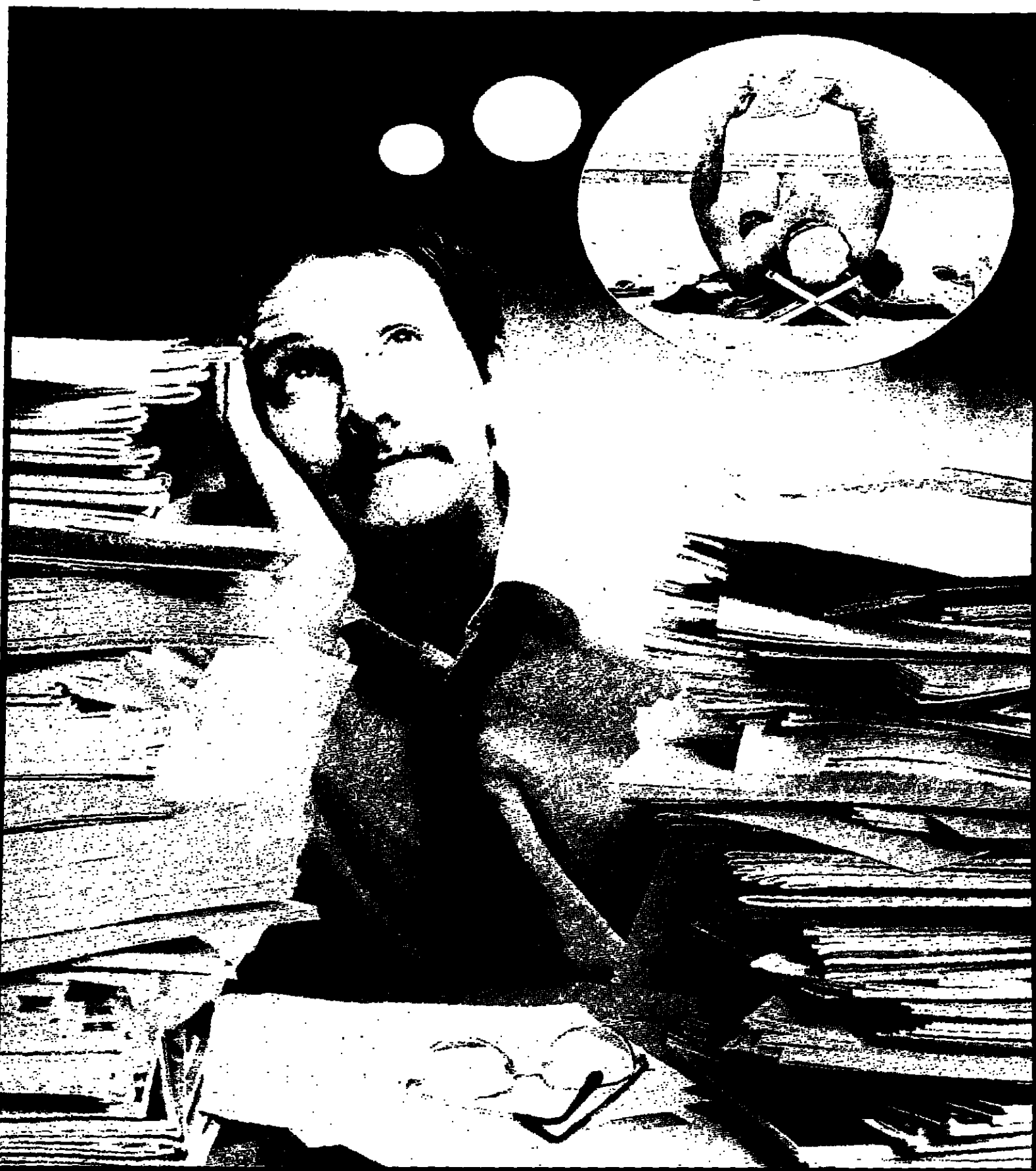
"For a start, take more, shorter holidays instead of one big one. And take holidays when you need them. How can it be that 70 per cent of the country needs a holiday in August? The law of averages alone makes it absurd.

"And don't leave your number with the office. I was sitting by a pool in the Algarve recently and there was a man with a mobile phone talking to the office constantly. Unless you forget work completely the holiday will never relax you."

When it comes to the employers themselves, Professor Cooper's suggestions are brilliant but Utopian. "A company should not expect employees to be up to speed in the first week after they get back. In fact, they should be encouraged to leave work by 4.30 every day. If they hang around late trying to catch up they will rush, and make mistakes. You should be encouraged to prioritise your in-tray, work through it gradually, and not feel guilty for having been away."

Firms that I spoke to were unimpressed. "Employees are expected to just get down to it," said a spokeswoman at the merchant bank Morgan Stanley. "We do not offer any help. Although we do have a gym, they can go there if they feel stressed."

At the financial news service Bloomberg LP, employee Anna Bateson said: "As this is an American firm we only get three weeks holiday. And they think it's generous. Nothing in particular is done to help ease us back in, but they do try to make the office a nicer place — there are tropical fish in tanks



Just a memory: back in the office, your good intentions evaporate, you shed your holiday self and become, once again, a wage slave

and they give us a lot of fruit."

Fish and fruit? Gymnasiums? We are not monkeys. Does no one understand the problems of post-holiday demotivation?

"Motivation? The motivation is the money, and the knowledge that if we are not firing on 12 cylinders at 8am on the day we get back then we will be out of a job by lunch time," says Terry Saunders, 32, an executive in a management consultancy firm that would fire him if he named it (pressure? what pressure?).

In 1992 he had a revelation: "I spent three weeks on a Greek island reading the first four books of Anthony Powell's *Dance to the Music of Time*," he recalls. "I was so transported that I forgot I had a job at all, so when I got back I bought the other eight volumes. Now, four years on, they are still sitting untouched on my bookshelf, reminding me that I have hardly had a holiday since, that I have no spare time, and that no one I encounter on a daily basis thinks books are important. Basically, I have no life."

Perhaps the problem is that we are all two people. For most of the year we are small and meek and miserable, while for

the odd two weeks we are large and proud and magnificent. Think of the things you buy when you are on holiday. I recently returned from Turkey, where I had bought a carpet to hang on the living room wall. It was about 12ft by 16ft, just right for the vast, high-ceilinged room that I carried about in my expanded imagination. When I got it home, it would barely fit through the front door, let alone hang on the wall. It has had to be folded in four and squashed into the hall as a door mat. The rather small living room wall is still bare.

It is the same for everyone. Even as you unpack the fluorescent green rubber T-shirt, hand-woven lama-hair loon pants, and wrap-around purple sunglasses, you ask yourself "Who do these belong to?"

The answer is that they belong to the person you were a fortnight before. The one who was going to come back, chuck in his job, and become a crop-sprayer and gun-runner in South America. The person who is going to spend the next 11 months in moth-balls, just like the loon-pants, only to surface again, wearing a sombrero and a sunburnt nose, some time in August 1997.

'When we go away we realise what we are missing'

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SUNDAY TELEGRAPH



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Keep our monstrous carbuncles

Giles Worsley defends the listing of even the most brutal buildings from after the war

It would be all too easy to condemn English Heritage's recommendation that the Park Hill Flats in Sheffield should be listed Grade II. Striding across the hillside on the edge of a close-knit network of terraced houses which were demolished to make way for it, the Park Hill Flats epitomise the arrogance of post-war mass housing schemes.

For many, particularly those who only know them from grainy black and white photographs, the gut reaction to the sight of these buildings is that they should be knocked down. How could anyone praise a building that was so universally condemned as ugly and was so widely seen to have had such socially damaging consequences?

The decision is all the more remarkable given that the Park Hill Flats will be the largest building ever to be listed, and will be Grade II, that is in the top 10 per cent of all listed buildings. Nor is it alone. In all, 16 major public housing schemes have been recommended for listing, including Erno Goldfinger's brutal Trellick Tower, which has long sent a shudder down the sensitive spines of the inhabitants of Ladbroke Grove, and parts of the Alton Estate in Roehampton on the edge of Richmond Park.

But however justified opposition might have been when they were built, demolition is not the answer today. To assume that knocking buildings down is the only solution to architectural and planning problems is to remain trapped in a 1960s mentality.

The truth is that we cannot afford to continue the mad cycle of demolish and rebuild, that has characterised public housing since the Second World War. It was enormously expensive to build the Park Hill Flats. To demolish them and re-house the 2,000 inhabitants would be so again. Even more damagingly, it would be to repeat the massive dislocation of the community which was one of the main objections to the Park Hill Flats when they were built.

Instead we need to make what we have work. In very many cases, the problems surrounding buildings such as the Park Hill Flats are the result of bad management and inadequate maintenance, or of filling them with inappropriate occupants. Quite small actions can make an enormous difference. The Trellick Tower now has a concierge, reducing vandalism and making sure that the building is in good order. Cleaning the 1960s campus of the University of Essex cost a mere £80,000, but had a dramatic effect on people's opinion of the buildings.

In the case of the Park Hill Flats, what the inhabitants really want is an assurance

that the building is not about to be demolished, so that they can get on with their lives. Nothing undermines a building, and those who live in it, more than uncertainty about its future.

This is where listing can make a difference. For too long the inhabitants of blocks such as the Park Hill Flats — and those responsible for their management — have assumed that the buildings are little better than slums. By showing them to be highly valued by many, listing provides a chance to restore pride in these buildings, which is essential if they are to be properly looked after.

With time comes perspective. Views are changing. To many younger people, such modern buildings are not nearly as threatening as they were to those who saw the damage caused when they were built. The same could be said of Victorian mills, which only ten years ago were dismissed as ugly eyesores but are now increasingly valued. Even those who ten years ago might have dismissed buildings such as the Park Hill Flats or Trellick Tower without much thought are today beginning to feel that they do

perhaps have an architectural power that few had appreciated before.

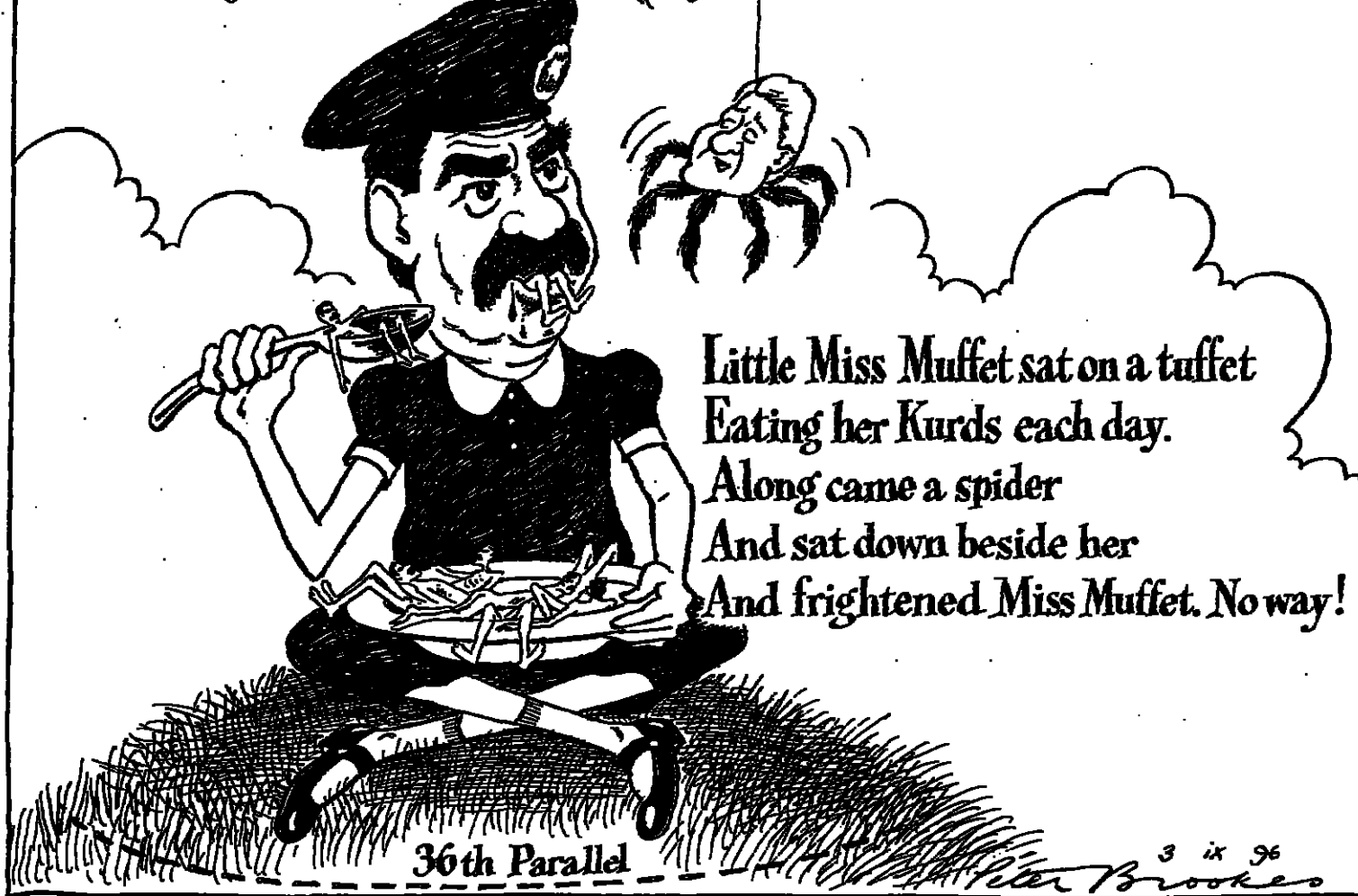
It is important to remember what a small percentage of post-war buildings are being listed. English Heritage cannot be accused of relativism, of arguing that all buildings are of equal value, for it has picked out a small number of buildings which it considers of exceptional significance or quality. But inevitably listing does raise the question of the future of the vast mass of unlisted post-war housing. While this may lack the architectural interest of the listed schemes, many of the issues raised are the same.

The listing debate gives us a chance to re-examine post-war housing as a whole, to identify its strengths and its weaknesses, to build on the one and to minimise the other. In some cases demolition will be the only answer, but elsewhere problems may be solved by installing porters or improving maintenance. Perhaps the answer lies in a change of use. Some estates or tower blocks, for instance, are better suited to students or childless couples than to families.

This is not to say that these buildings are ideal, or that we should copy them. There can be little doubt that the money spent building Park Hill would have been better spent providing decent sanitation in the terraced houses that these flats replaced. But they were built. The best such estates are part of our culture. We cannot afford to throw them away lightly.

The author is editor of *Perspectives on Architecture*.

NURSERY RHYMES REVISITED



We all need to work

Our jobs are part of our identity: so what hope is there for those who have no chance from the start?

The cat is out of the bag at last: Camelot released it, and demonstrated that even the fastest moggy still wants to go mousing sometimes, to run and pounce and prowl and not lie permanently prone in the sunlight. The National Lottery company has revealed that more than half of its new millionaires are still working.

On the *Today* programme we heard a cheerful chap called Mike Antonucci explaining that £2.8 million had not been enough to make him desert his regular customers, who "saw me through the recession, putting money up front for stock and so forth". You can't, he explained, just drop people like that because you've come into money. Another man, a labourer, went back to work but invested in his employees; others have put the win into new businesses which they run, hands-on. From tax officers to lab technicians, lesser winners have returned to work next day without hesitation. Some haven't: but Hunter Davis, author of a forthcoming book on lottery winners, points out that many of those were unemployed beforehand.

All of which confirms that most of us are held together not only by personal relationships and beliefs but by our jobs. Philip Larkin, in his grumbling poem about "the mad work" squating on his life, beautifully expresses it in the last verse:

When the lights come on at four
At the end of another year
Give me your arm, old Toad:
Help me down Cemetery Road.

I have to admit that last time I quoted that, a colleague of the deceased poet wrote me a grumpy letter saying "Let me tell you, bloody Larkin never did any work at all". But even that helps to fill in the picture of the frosty, backbiting, familiar cosiness of work and the way that colleagues form surrogate families. Dysfunctional ones at times. I grant you, with too many Aunt Ada Doooms, but families nonetheless.

Even those of us who have been claimed back by the biological kind of family and are reduced to teleworking from the spare bedroom with hamsters on the desk owe a debt to various workplaces. I have done every shape of night shift, typed bills of lading in a German bank, been a barmaid, and sprained my wrists at the hateful trade of filling ice-cream cones. These things formed me, every bit as much as private life has done. Even in freelance, entrepre-

neurial work, obligations and loyalties build up. Mr Antonucci's care for his clients reminds us that even a commercial relationship is a real one.

The story of the industrious lottery winners comes at an apposite time of year. The lights are not quite coming on at four, but cold northerly winds are blowing away the laziness of summer, the last holidaymakers are trickling back, the last university places being bargained for by tense 18-year-olds. Schoolchildren are descending on stationers' shops like locusts, in the perennial happy belief that a new pencil-case will change

about GCSEs: A-level candidates feel a terror which is not about failing a set of exams but about "blowing their chances" in life altogether. Those condemned to a lesser university than they dreamt of pack their bags, tight-lipped with disappointment, despairing of their whole future before they even start shaving. But at least the graduates have the "McJobs", the menial tasks, to fall back on if they don't make it into a white collar. Those whose education or intellect was never likely to get them past a McJob in the first place may have nothing.

Can you wonder if they turn antisocial, and end up experiencing whatever is this week's Home Office big idea — boot camps, electronic tagging, naming-and-shaming or whatever? Can you wonder if their music is

angry, their parties are frenzied, their inclinations tend to the escapes of drugs or life on the road?

It is worth remembering how new this situation is. In the early 1970s, I was sent to interview an interesting new phenomenon: a group of children who had been out of school for a year and never had any kind of job. It was thought extraordinary: this was prosperous Oxfordshire, not some obviously blighted area where factories or mines had closed. Yet this polite, anxious group of 17-year-olds had been applying all year for any job at all, and failing. I still remember how powerful was the sense of shame and exclusion they haltingly expressed. Today I suppose they would feel it less, since there is reassurance in numbers: perhaps shame is best replaced by defiance.

The phenomenon of youth unemployment crept onwards, to affect graduates too as we passed the million mark (another scandal at the time) then doubled and trebled it. But because it ran parallel with the un-

employment of adults, heads of families, homeowners, it was overshadowed. Recently, there has been far more fuss about schoolchildren emerging "unemployable" than about the question of whether there are jobs to employ them. As for juvenile crime, it is cheaper and easier to blame that on divorce, feckless single mothers, rock music, the 1960s or another easy scapegoat than to contemplate the idea that the anger, depression and antisocial behaviour of poorer teenagers are directly connected to their perception that the world has no use for them, unless on some footling, bogus training scheme.

The counter to this is the accusation that such streetwise kids don't want to work, or aren't given a work ethic by schools (another easy scapegoat). Perhaps: but I have never forgotten a conversation with Bruce Smith, who runs the Suffolk Punch stud at Hollesley Bay penal colony. When he started in prison farms, more than 20 years ago, most of the boys had had work. By the mid-1980s he was saying, "They've usually been on the dole since school. So I give them a little talk about the stud, then put them on sweeping and general work. Gradually, they gain confidence. A stable teaches you a work routine; having animals rely on you is the best way to learn responsibility. If a horse needs feeding, and needs you to do it, well, it's obvious, you do it." He grew a bit depressed sometimes, sending them back out into a world which makes it hard enough for ordinary teenagers to find a function, let alone ex-offenders.

Adult unemployment is bad, but on an individual level it can be accepted as one of life's hard knocks. If you have reason to believe in your own usefulness because you worked and earned for years, you are to some extent equipped to deal with such knocks. But for a basically prosperous society to be so wedded to market forces that we routinely let children leave full-time education and go straight on the dole with no chance to confirm that they are of use to anybody — that is plain wicked.

Too often, we forget it. "Youth unemployment" has become a yawning, inducing topic. But looking at the anxious faces, listening to the conversations of even ten-year-olds oppressed in advance by the dread of rejection, I wonder whether we should start referring to it more robustly, as child abuse.

Padania muddles through

Woodrow Wyatt on the dynamic North of Italy

Of our present European partners, the Italians are my favourites. They are warm, welcoming and kind, and prolific with delightful compliments — and if some of the flattery is not quite sincere, engaging in it still gives pleasure to the bestower and the recipient. But the times are not so stable for Italians as they were during the many years of anti-Communist coalitions based on the Christian Democrats. Governments fell regularly and rapidly, but the same faces were rearranged around the Cabinet table. The collapse of Soviet Communism removed the threat on which previous coalitions had been built, as former Communists declared themselves transformed into anodyne social democrat reformers *à la* Blair.

Today's coalition, led by Romano Prodi, is heavily dependent on the Democratic Party of the Left, containing many former Communists with strong links to the unions. Almost everyone in Italy wants a federal united states of Europe and a single currency. For centuries, major regions of Italy were ruled by foreigners, who left imprints and have prevented Italy from becoming united in the sense that the United Kingdom is, inducing the feeling that it would be more convenient to be governed by Brussels. But Italy is hopelessly far from meeting the Maastricht criteria for joining a single currency. The horrifying deficit can be reduced only by higher taxes and by slashing social welfare, a rampant Italian disease. But the unions will have none of this, insisting that bags of public money injected into the industrial infrastructure will make the deficit manageable.

Apart from the trade unions, the Government's power rests upon competent left-wing civil servants and judges. A judge famous for prosecuting corruption, Antonio Di Pietro, is now Minister of Public Works. He has enlisted important contractors whom he had jailed to advise him on awarding the very large contracts at his disposal. The old lags will have to behave with scrupulous honesty or the minister will have them popped into jail again. Unfortunately, Italy's brilliant post-war revival arose from corruption and the black economy from which presidents, prime ministers, Cabinet ministers and other eminent persons cheerfully profited. Many have since been imprisoned or await trial. Corruption has not vanished, but some practitioners are perhaps deterred.

Germany, France and Italy, unlike Britain, have yet to shake off the effects of the worldwide recession. Some big Italian companies with healthy exports still do well, but many are suffering. A leading industrialist told me that small firms, particularly those relying on the black economy, do better than large firms, and the hard-working Milan area does triumphantly the best. Hence Umberto Bossi has local majority support for his aim of a unilateral declaration of independence of a new country to be called Padania. It is an impractical notion but stranger things have occurred in Italy. As a whole, unemployment is recorded at 12 per cent and rising, but in Padania it is only 8 per cent. It is above 20 per cent in the lazy, feckless South. This illustrates the dangers of a single currency even within Italy, which regards itself as several nations, not one.

Somehow the ingenious and industrious Italians in the North, with their competitive exports, will see that the country muddles through. However, they are aware, as we should be, that within ten years East Germany will be economically level with West Germany, giving Germany easily the most powerful European economy. Germans are unpopular in Italy.

Italy would like us to be full enthusiastic members of the EU, joining a single currency and a federal united states of Europe. Britain is wanted for its balancing effect, assuaging the fear of total domination by Germany and France. There is hostility to John Major's Government and a keen preference for Labour, which is thought to be as pro-European as Germany. France or Italy, an excitable and voluble Italian Ambassador, who shall be nameless, denounced Britain at a private dinner for deliberately spreading BSE, a plague he said was as dangerous as HIV, throughout Europe, and added that Britain had determined under Major to wreck the EU by every foul means. However, Giovanni Ricci, Italy's famous neurologist, who has been working on a cure for epilepsy, observes that it is scientifically impossible for BSE to be transmitted to human beings.

In the wings waits the media mogul, Silvio Berlusconi, not yet to be written off. His difficulty as a pragmatic businessman in politics is, as R.A. Butler was wont to say, understanding the art of the possible. In the wilderness, Berlusconi muddles, well he has reflected on this shortcoming. A businessman of standing who was once a big fan of his said to me that Berlusconi is more interested in the commercial empire than in the interests of the country, which prompted me to recall that glorious statement, "What's good for General Motors is good for the USA."

Bench mark

AS REPORTS came through yesterday that the actor Liam Neeson had been taken to hospital for an emergency operation after the premiere of his new film in Venice, another Hollywood hunk was also under medical supervision in Italy.

Micky Rourke, the hard-nosed, hard-drinking actor, has been resting up at a clinic called Villa Azura in Terracina, south of Rome, where he was filming with his wife Carré Otis in tow.

Reports in the Italian press that he is suffering from "depression, stress and too much whisky" have been denied, even though the clinic takes in alcoholics and depressives. Rourke's doctor of the last 13 years, a dab-hand at plastic surgery by the name of Professor Luigi Lomonaco, insists that his pugilistic charge is suffering from no more than food poisoning.

Rourke was filming *The Colony* with Jean-Claude Van Damme in a production which has left the Roman populace less than delighted. Magistrates are currently investigating accusations that the production crew damaged an ancient marble bench in the Piazza Navona, one of the finest squares in the Eternal City. Central to its

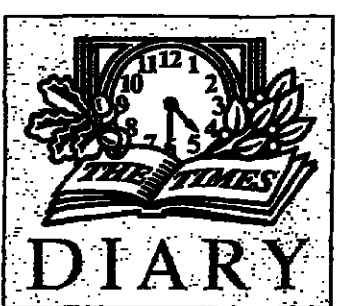
grandeur is Bernini's fountain. The bench, too is reportedly a Bernini masterpiece.

Cold snack

IT MIGHT have been a tad chilly in the Antarctic, but the members of the 1911-14 Australasian Antarctic Expedition, led by Sir Douglas Mawson, were determined to keep up standards.



Rourke and Carré Otis



A menu card bound for a mid-winter's dinner at Main Base in 1912 is coming up for sale at Christie's later this month. With a limited larder, the team were forced to make the most of what they had: delicacies included *Pinguin d la Terre Adélie* (penguins in a dubious sauce) and *Noisette de Phoquo* (seal nuggets). At the foot of the menu is written: "During dinner the Blizzard will render the usual accompaniments — *The Tempest*, 'For Ever and Ever' etc." Warned by a post-prandial brandy, Mawson recorded the dinner as "a great success", adding: "The wind surpassed itself with an unusual burst of ninety-five miles per hour."

Visitors to the Welsh Room at the Palace of Westminster should take umbrellas, for the place has sprung a leak (no, not a leak). Contractors fractured a water main re-

cently and a fine drizzle now falls from the ceiling. All that's needed now for the Parliamentary equivalent of virtual reality is a male voice choir in the room.

Streets ahead

COULD the lanes of Gloucestershire soon be the scene of an unedifying struggle between Captain Mark Phillips, horsey former husband of the Princess Royal, and the gawky television presenter Janet Street-Porter?

Mark Phillips is attempting to



"I know it's listed, but it's hell to live in"

prevent access to a public right of way hard by his home on the Gatecombe Park estate at Minchinhampton. Janet Street-Porter, champion of the Ramblers' Association, believes in access to public footpaths.

Gloucestershire County Council is swinging behind Phillips, who is arguing for the change on grounds of safety, security and privacy. La Street-Porter, unavailable when I tried to contact her, is surely donning battle garments in the form of a cagoule more shockingly coloured than her hair.

Religious leaders of all denominations in South Africa are begging Nelson Mandela to get on and marry his companion Graca Machel after the weekend's revelation that she is planning to move into his residence in Johannesburg for two weeks every month. Living in sin simply isn't on — especially not for a man of such distinction.

Modest do

A MODEST housewarming party the other night hosted by Michael Caine's delightful daughter Natasha in her flat adjacent to Viscount Linley's was sullied when a designer dog disgraced itself on the carpet.

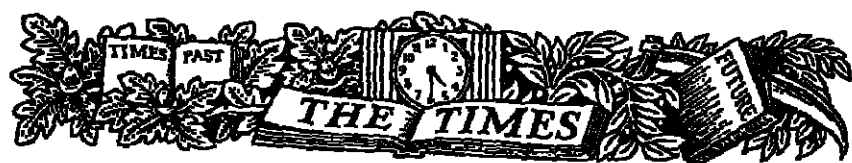
Not any carpet either — it was



Natasha: pet problems

newly laid seagrass of the highest quality. Champagne was flowing when a shriek of horror cut through the conversation. The fox terrier's owner, who had enjoyed lunch so much that she overlooked the dog's afternoon constitutional, was flapping about in panic. Michael Caine came to the poor girl's rescue. "Don't worry darling," he said. "It's very good luck — the best christening a flat could have." Not a lot of people know that.

P.H.S



WHY ACT AGAINST SADDAM

In order to keep Iran out, Turkey in and Iraq down

When Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait six years ago, he shook from Western eyes the dust that had so conveniently obscured the view of the eight-year Iran-Iraq War. The annexation was declared at the United Nations to be a clear danger to international peace and security. By the following spring, Iraq was driven out of Kuwait by a broad coalition led by the US.

Saddam's Iraq has not ceased to be a threat to peace. In the past five years, his efforts to hide Iraq's illegal arsenals and refusals to carry out Iraq's obligations under the UN's 1991 ceasefire resolutions have provided more than enough evidence that Iraq will continue to be a danger to its neighbours so long as he is in power. The regime's militarism is not only undiminished; it is the ideological axis of Saddam's dictatorship. War by every means, both internal and external, is what sustains his grip on power.

The Middle East may no longer be a cockpit of the Cold War, but it is a region whose strategic importance is matched only by its volatility. In such a region, no destabilising influence can be accounted insignificant and Iraq's menace extends from Turkey deep into the oil-rich Gulf.

If America and its allies ever believed in a "single bullet solution" to remove Saddam, they have had time to be disabused. They are in for the long haul and, to paraphrase what used to be said of Nato in the Cold War, the strategy for the long haul has to embrace three imperatives. Iraq must be kept down, Iran frozen out and the Middle East held within the orbit of Western friendship. To that equation must be added the increasingly delicate business of "keeping Turkey in": the Islamist-led coalition that now governs Turkey is tempted to cut loose from the collective security enterprise.

None of this should need to be restated, in these columns or, more pertinently, at the Security Council. There, the US and Britain continue to make the strategic case; but they are losing ground against governments, including those of France and Russia, that would rather resume profitable trade with oil-rich Iraq than continue with the costly business of containment. The result of these divisions is that the US-led coalition of 1990 has lost its cutting edge. The West now appears to have no settled policy apart from overt opposition to Saddam himself — and

even this is tempered by fears that Iran will exploit any power vacuum in Iraq. There is no agreement on how to keep him down or who deserves Western backing in this endeavour; and no strategic vision of what is needed to restore security to the region.

With the exception of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait itself, Arab states are tailoring their rhetoric to this altered circumstance, as they weigh the risk that they may eventually be left to deal with Saddam as best they can. It is for this audience that Saddam staged his latest piece of theatre — exaggerating Iran's involvement in northern Iraq in order to present his military power-play as the legitimate defence of Iraq's sovereign soil. Malcolm Rifkind, at least, is prepared to state the obvious. There is nothing remotely defensive about Saddam's attack on Arbil, just as it has nothing to do with Kurdish politics. It is a bid to regain control over all of northern Iraq, and more specifically, the Iraqi oil pipeline to Turkey, as a necessary first step to re-establishing Iraq as regional bully. That is why, regardless of the chaos of Kurdish politics, it cannot be tolerated.

Saddam is gambling again. He has observed that when Iraq breaks the law, it now finds governments ready to plead for leniency. Despite Iraq's outright and repeated defiance of UN weapons inspectors this summer, Russia and France opposed British and American demands to declare Iraq in "material breach" of the council's 1991 ceasefire resolution, 687 — a step that would lay the legal foundation for military retaliation. When Iraq tests how far it can bend the law, as Saddam has in northern Iraq, the same governments play with the fine print of UN texts to justify inaction.

Saddam has challenged the West to play double or quits — taking care first to secure his back with another massive purge of Iraqi officers. There should be no question about the severity of the West's response.

But he may also have done the world a favour. The day UN sanctions are lifted, Iraq will rearm: even today, its arsenal almost certainly includes long-range missiles and banned weapons of mass destruction. That day has receded. Voices have recently been raised in favour of normal relations with Iraq, even with Saddam still in power. As so often in the past, he has made the conciliators look foolish indeed.

SILENCE IN THE CENTRE

The Liberal Democrats need not be abashed about Europe

The rise of Tony Blair and "new" Labour has left the Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown, like a cyclist squashed between a bus and a juggernaut. Though personally popular, his party's poll ratings are low. The two remaining policies that distinguish the Liberal Democrats from Labour — support for a federal Europe and higher income tax to finance education — will hardly lure away disaffected Tories in mid-flight to Mr Blair.

So it is perhaps not surprising that the centre party seems to be playing down its European enthusiasm at its party conference later this month. Unusually, there is to be no general debate on Europe. The only motions selected are about the common fisheries policy and BSE, on which there is room for the rhetoric to be more anti-Brussels.

It is common to see political parties rigging their conference agenda when disagreements threaten an image of unity: the Tories, in particular, are famous for it. But it is odder to see a party at one with itself taking a vow of silence. The reason may lie less with Lib Dem activists than with the party's supporters in the country. Ever since Jo Grimond first came out strongly for Europe some 40 years ago, the Liberal Party and its successors have suffered from a membership that is pro-European and voters who are ambivalent. But, as the whole country has turned more sceptical about the direction of the EU, this contrast has become starker. In our MORI poll in May, Liberal Democrat supporters were as Euro-sceptical

as Tories, despite the views of their preferred party. Asked whether they would vote for Britain to stay in the EU or pull out if there were a referendum, they were evenly split.

Looking at the distribution of support for the Lib Dems, the source of this scepticism becomes more apparent. The centre party's strongholds, in the South West of England and the Celtic fringe, are areas that have been hard-hit by EU policies on fish and beef. At the last party conference before the election, it may make tactical sense to try to counter the accusation that the centre party is unthinkingly pro-Brussels.

But it is a shame, also, to see political disputation stifled in this way. We would take issue with the Liberal Democrats' policy on Europe: all the more reason to want the argument to be put. Britain has enjoyed a higher level of public debate about the direction of Europe than any other member state, particularly over the merits of the Maastricht treaty and the single currency. One of the healthier aspects of this country's political life is that there is no longer just one opinion about the EU.

The centre party may have a hard job lifting its support from 13 per cent to nearer the 18 per cent that it won in 1992. But being mealy-mouthed is a poor way to get there. A party brave enough to say that taxes need to be higher ought to be brave enough to make its case for a federal Europe. Distinctiveness is the Lib Dems' only hope of not being crushed between Labour and the Tories.

PAUPERS IN CASTLES

New money for the arts should not squeeze out the old

The lesson of the National Lottery appears to be that sudden windfalls can disorientate as much as delight. That is as true among the arts organisations who hoped to benefit as it is for the jackpot winners who have kept their jobs for the sake of stability. Although the lottery has seen money irrigate the arts, it has flowed along narrow canals. Today the Arts Council will unveil a pilot scheme to spread lottery money more widely.

Because of the success of the lottery some £500 million has been distributed to arts organisations across the country. But that money has, so far, been limited to capital expenditure, to erecting new buildings, renovating old and furnishing them. Alongside this wonderful prodigality there has been worrying parsimony. The Arts Council of England has seen its budget, which provides revenue for arts companies, cut by £5 million in this financial year. The present formula builds castles for paupers.

The proposal, then, to allow the Arts Council to use lottery money to "stabilise" the funding of arts bodies is a welcome breach in the rules. It establishes, albeit on a pilot basis, that the vast sums gathered by

from the Arts Council by the Treasury. It appears uncomfortably close to a straight substitution of lottery money for taxpayers'.

The lottery was designed to supplement, not replace government funding. The original restrictions on spending were established to ensure that the Government did not retreat from its obligations to the arts. Although it might seem tempting to remove the arts from the unseemly auction of the public expenditure round and see it supported by a steady stream of lottery money it would, ultimately, be a poor bargain. Lotteries abroad, even the most successful, have yielded gradually diminishing sums. Since the Arts Council was established it received an increase in government support ahead of the rate of inflation almost every year — until 1994.

Ideally, the success of the lottery should see a net, sustainable, increase in revenue funding for the arts, rather than a straight swap of lottery money for taxpayers'. Such an increase will, however, require sensitivity among the grant-awarding bodies. Labour is already looking with covetous eyes at the current distribution of lottery money. If

Considerations for a divorced Prince

From Professor Emeritus Mervyn Lewis

Sir, So the reality of the royal divorce — Somerset House, August 28, 1996 — is, at long last, in front of us, with all its implications for the future of the monarchy. In 1936 Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin solved the political problem of the royal marital crisis by advising the King to abdicate. Edward VIII duly obliged, and as a consequence, the nation became blessed with a King and Queen of exemplary inspiration as it faced the darkest days of the Second World War.

The question of who succeeds our present Queen has surely become, in its own way, no less political. If the heir to the throne, on political advice, decided to step aside in favour of his son, the outlook could be transformed. Instead of progressing backwards into the next century, along a path strewn with constant and debilitating reminders of the wrecked royal marriage, both the monarchy and the nation could grasp the opportunities of the coming millennium, energised by the prospect of a young and potentially refreshing King, unencumbered by any such deatins.

Yours faithfully, MERVYN LEWIS, 4 Druids Close, Norton, Swansea, Glamorganshire, August 29.

From Mr Derek Biddle

Sir, Your claim (leading article, "The Prince's trust", August 31) that the way ahead from the marriage which has tarnished the House of Windsor lies safely in the hands of the Prince of Wales's "sensitivity".

Sensitivity over the past 15 years might have prevented it being tarnished in the first place, and the faith that the Prince could have defended might have been that of his wife.

Modernising the monarchy, as advocated by the Prince's Way Ahead group, could lead to a change that would suit his personal circumstances and make possible matrimonial arrangements with another party. I am reminded of an earlier King who changed the faith he defended (and that of his nation) in order to satisfy his own "possessive individualism" in matters of matrimony.

The treatment of Diana, (the) Princess of Wales, and formerly "HRH", seems unnecessarily shabby. The public will be watching to see whether she is succeeded by another Princess and what title she is given. It is possible that your faith in the Prince's sensitivity could be misplaced, and the titles made worthless.

Yours sincerely, DEREK BIDDLE, 9 Manor Road, Harrow, Middlesex, August 31.

From Mrs Mary Humphrey

Sir, Your leading article is a timely reminder of the thoughtful lead the Prince of Wales has given on a number of matters touching the wellbeing of British people. Many of us will surely hope that these leadership qualities will continue throughout his life to be at the service of his country.

To this end, I can only hope that if Mrs Parker Bowles does not wish to put his future at risk she will make public a commitment that she will never marry him.

Yours faithfully, MARY HUMPHREY, 14 Ambrose Place, Worthing, Sussex, September 2.

Church authority

From Father Ronald Walls

Sir, As an ex-Presbyterian, now a Roman Catholic, I was disappointed and a bit nettled by Magnus Linklater's statement ("Will Prince Charles ever be bonnier?", August 29) that the Church of Scotland "derives its authority from the congregation upwards". This is untrue.

The Church of Scotland is not congregational but Presbyterian in government. Authority resides in a hierarchy of courts. In grave matters of doctrine and discipline decisions are made in the last resort after deliberation in the presbyteries throughout the land. Motions are accepted when approved by two thirds of the presbyteries. The Church acknowledges a "magisterium" (teaching authority).

Yours faithfully, RONALD WALLS, 54 Aird Street, Portsoy, Banffshire, August 29.

Safety on holiday

From the Chairman of the Federation of Tour Operators

Sir, I was pleased to read Harvey Elliott's very balanced comments concerning safety whilst on holiday ("It's safer than they think", Travel News, August 15). Although, statistically, going on holiday is 13 times less hazardous than going for a walk, holidays involve people choosing to do things they would not normally do at home: swimming, snorkelling, skiing, diving, dancing, driving on the right, even reading books.

Tour operators invest more than £12 million each year on inspections and, subsequently, improvement loans.

Ridding society of prejudice on age

From Mr Eric Reid

Sir, William Rees-Mogg's assertion ("Apartheid of ageism", August 29) that "ageism should have no more acceptance in our society than any other species of apartheid" is to be applauded. While youth programming on television has become a major genre, older people remain consistently under-represented or, if shown, then often in an unflattering light.

The reality is that healthy, active, independent seniors now make up an increasing proportion (one in three) of the population, although a decreasing proportion of the workforce. This is one major reason why ARP/OSO (the Association of Retired and Persons Over 50) continues to press for anti-ageist legislation.

As BBC TV's recent *Coming of Age* series clearly demonstrated, many aspects of becoming older make for thought-provoking viewing by people of all ages: television programmers should use the opportunity presented

by the new television Channel 5 to broaden horizons, not shrink them.

Yours faithfully, ERIC REID, Chairman, Association of Retired and Persons Over 50 (ARP/OSO), Greencoat House, Francis Street, SW1, August 30.

From Mr Martin Pearce

Sir, As Dawn Airey's other, though not better half, I can assure William Rees-Mogg that unless there is some sinister undertone of which I am unaware, the motto from her Edinburgh TV Festival Channel 5 address was certainly not "drop dead at 40", as he suggests.

Yours faithfully, M. PEARCE (aged 40+), The Chapel, Church Lane, Islip, Oxfordshire, August 30.

Oxbridge standards

From Mr Nicholas O'Shaughnessy

Sir, Why is so much press discussion of the Oxbridge universities about admission issues rather than their increasing failure to compete internationally (leading article, August 26)?

If we take the admittedly crude measure of Nobel Prizes, Cambridge has not won one since 1984 and Oxford possesses not one single resident winner. In contrast, the business school alone at the University of Chicago has two on the faculty.

Salaries of many Oxbridge academics, like those in British universities generally, now equate with London Underground drivers: and if the trends of the past 15 years continue, academic salaries will be on the level of manual workers. Recruitment is very difficult, in some specialisations, such as accountancy and management engineering. Cambridge is sometimes unable to appoint and many of the best researchers have moved to the United States.

This has to be related to the acute funding crisis both universities now

face. Every year they are subject to so-called efficiency gains by the Government: that is, their income is cut. Does the Government really want to go back to the 1930s, when annual fees at Oxford were four fifths of the salary of a sergeant in the Metropolitan Police, and grocers' daughters from Grantham hardly got a look in? Having themselves climbed the ladder, do ministers wish to pull it from the grasp of the young?

The sublime provincialism of English establishment discourse ignores crucial questions about the relative competitiveness of our most elite institutions. Those of our readers who are graduates of Oxford and Cambridge should realise that the prestige of their association is being gradually eroded. They will eventually come to represent merely the national and not the international elite.

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS O'SHAUGHNESSY, Judge Institute of Management Studies, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, August 26.

Drugs and Customs

From Mr Jeremy Gautrey

Sir, Your report (News in brief, August 12) that Scotland Yard is to set up a seagoing unit of two inflatable boats as "back-up" for customs and immigration inspectors and navy operations. The rationale for this is that the police have more powers than Customs and Excise to search and arrest.

Customs and Excise is the only law-enforcement authority able effectively to control smuggling. They have extensive legal powers under the Customs and Excise Management Act, which allows powers of boarding and access in search for imported drugs — powers which the police do not have.

Furthermore, they often seize drugs in bulk before they are broken down for distribution. This is the point at which the main involvement of the police begins.

Currently Customs and Excise patrol the UK's coastline in vessels called cutters, which are crewed by experienced and fully trained customs officers, who detect and seize illicit drugs. The number of these cutters has not increased over the past few years.

The Government's own statistics, which show lower drug prices in the United Kingdom and an increase in drugs-related crime, are evidence that drug smuggling certainly is on the increase.

The Government has done little to stem this evil. To the contrary, two years ago it announced a 4,000 reduction in customs officers, including 500 frontline anti-smugglers.

These cuts are undoubtedly having a damaging impact on effective customs controls, as they increasingly expose many parts of our coastline to smuggling.

If they are not reversed and an increase in customs operations is not undertaken, then this country will inevitably lose the fight against drugs.

Yours faithfully, JEREMY GAUTREY (Assistant Secretary), Civil and Public Services Association, HMS Customs and Excise, TUS Room 2296, South Terminal, Gatwick Airport, West Sussex, September 2.

DNA evidence in court

From Mr Phillip Gething

Sir, When DNA evidence is presented in court it is probably helpful to supply the judge and jury with a "random occurrence ratio" as a means to calculate the rarity or otherwise of a given profile ("DNA: new legal rulings give help to judge and jury", Law, August 27).

However, the possibility that a crime was committed by a relation of the accused, rather than the accused, also has to be considered. Statistics for the population at large do not, in these circumstances, offer a reliable guide to the chances of obtaining a match over a portion of the DNA profile: their use is also inappropriate to crime committed in small and isolated villages, where many people are related to each other.

There seems to be a danger of courts being blinded by random science. The random occurrence ratio is only one statistic and must be supplemented by others. Counsel for the defence also have a duty to be alert to the dangers of misinterpretation and to point them out forcefully to the court.

Yours sincerely, PHILLIP GETTING, 26 Dukes Mead, Fleet, Hampshire, August 27.

A broader range?

From Ms Elizabeth M. Balsom

Sir, Like Richard Morrison ("Long wait for the passion to arrive", later editions, August 29) I'm getting fed up with so much Mahler from the Berlin Philharmonic. I also feel cheated when visiting US celebrity orchestras give us so much from the 19th-century European symphonic repertoire.

Could he perhaps use his influence and persuade them to give us more American works, for instance Roy Harris or Ellen Zwillich?

The accountants looking at the night's takings need not fear: I'm sure the punters would still turn up to hear those illustrious bands.

Yours etc, ELIZABETH BALSOM, 16 Colescroft Road, SW15, August 29.

Survival struggle of basking shark

From Ms Joan Walley, MP for Stoke on Trent North (Labour)

Sir, Your report (August 20) of £20,000 funding from Scottish Natural Heritage for the tagging of basking sharks off Arran in the Firth of Clyde is a timely reminder of just how fragmented Government policy on nature conservation has become.

In the Isle of Man a bank worker, Ken Waterson, has been struggling for the past 13 years, mostly in his spare time and on a shoestring budget, to measure the declining numbers of basking sharks in that area and to increase our scientific understanding of the species. His work cannot be fully recognised because the waters off the Isle of Man are not UK waters.

Meanwhile, the Scottish Office has apparently overlooked, on commercial grounds, the previous recommendations of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee to include the basking shark on the Wildlife and Countryside Act's list of endangered species.

The Environment Secretary has a stark choice: either to bow still further to market forces, or to seize the opportunity provided by the current quinquennial review of the Act, and agree endangered-species status for basking sharks in September. It would then be a relatively simple step to review how the Isle of Man project can be adequately funded, in conjunction with the IOM Government and the EU.

Ken Waterson's expertise should be shared with initiatives further round our coastline, including this latest one in Scotland. If we are serious about environmental protection and the basking shark, we have to act so that neither the fragmentation of policy, market forces nor artificial boundaries act as barriers to biodiversity around the British Isles.

Yours sincerely, JOAN WALLEY, House of Commons, August 23.

Weather pessimism

From Mr Tim Batstone

Sir, The Bank Holiday just gone gave us a classic example of weather forecasters at their most damagingly gloomy. The forecast for the country was in broad terms "staring cloudy, rain later everywhere". The actual weather, also in broad terms, was "sunny with the odd shower in the afternoon".

The result of the forecast was to reduce numbers heading to the coast and outdoor attractions generally, to spoil many people's chances of making the most of a really quite decent day's weather and in turn to deny thousands of businesses the chance to recover some of a poor season's trade.

Presentation is all. For example "sunny with showers" sounds more promising than "rain with sunny intervals", but could be describing exactly the same weather. For all our sakes, could we entreat weather folk, particularly around Bank Holidays, to couch their message with as much optimism as their cautious professionalism will allow.

Yours sincerely, TIM BATSTONE (Managing Director), H. B. Leisure Limited, 82 Moystyn Street, Llandudno, Gwynedd, August 30.

Cleopatra's Needle

From Mr Roger Johnson

Sir, Like Mr J. P. Rudland (letter, August 28) I too have visited Egypt recently, and have seen the few obelisks that remain report and leading article, September 2). In addition to admiring their condition, I marvelled at their spectacular grandeur and the authenticity of their setting.

The only respectable solution to the concern expressed by Mr Rudland is to return Cleopatra's Needle to the Temple of Amun at Karnak in Luxor. The Embankment would not be the poorer but Karnak would be greatly enhanced.

Perhaps we could also encourage other countries which acquired other obelisks in the past to follow this example as a positive and worthwhile millennium statement.

Yours imaginatively, ROGER JOHNSON, 37 Pedmore Lane, Stourbridge, West Midlands, September 2.

Indian English

From Sir Roger Falk

Sir, Your letters on Indian English (August 27, 31) remind me of a splendid example which has been a great assistance, over the decades, when having to propose toasts to young brides and bridegrooms.

In 1935 I left Calcutta after living there for three years. My chief clerk, a Brahmin, wrote to me when I married in 1938 as follows:

Dear Sir, By the time you get this letter, or even before you shall have received it, I, too, hope to be canonically pinned to a paragon of mine.

Fishermen save their livelihoods with sea-to-shop co-operative

A Kent town's fishing industry is charting a new course, reports Mark Andrews

Eddie Otley, aged 60, ex-Royal Navy, ex-Merchant Navy, and ex-Channel ferries, has fished out of the Kent town of Folkestone since he was 14. He has been witness to a declining industry that can now muster a fleet of only 14 boats. It had become little more than subsistence fishing. The watershed came five years ago, when Folkestone's fish market lost its only wholesale outlet. The fishermen were left with no one to market their fish. It could have been the end. However, Mr Otley decided that the only way forward was to organise their own outlet. Six months of planning and a lot of help from Kent County Council's Co-operative Development Agency saw Mr Otley establish the Folkestone Fishermen's Co-operative.

"Suddenly," he says, "we were on our own — our own governor. Six boats originally came in with us — now there are four. We borrowed money and hired premises on the harbour's edge. We got refrigeration equipment and a big chiller, capable of holding 3,000 stone of fish. We can also make a ton of ice every 24 hours. We've now paid for that."

"What we've done is get rid of the middleman. We shifted some fish in those early days. I can tell you, before the quotas. Catches were good. The boats were happy because they were getting a good price for their fish. The money we were getting was all ours — no one in the middle creaming it off."

"We sell to Billingsgate. Grimsby and Brixham. That may sound a bit daft — sending fish to Grimsby and Brixham, but if that's where



Eddie Otley, right, at the shop run by Folkestone Fishermen's Co-operative, which was set up with county council guidance and is now exporting fish

the best price is, that's where we can negotiate a better price because there's no middleman. My main aim is to get the best price I can. It means a lot of phone calls. We even send stuff to Belgium and Holland, and I've got a contact in the fish market in Boulogne. We've got a motto, 'Box the bass for Boulogne'."

Mr Otley is constantly surprised at just how successful the venture has been. "After three years, we decided to expand the wholesale premises and open a retail shop," he says. "I recruited two staff — one was an ex-

fireman, retired because of injury, the other a fishmonger hit by the recession."

Both recruits admit that the co-operative has given them a new lease of life and kept them off the dole queue.

Mr Otley says: "It's not an easy life. You can't afford to let up. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, you've got to do it."

Eddie Otley is the managing director. He wears a blue boiler suit and has hands that have done many a hard day's work. "I do the books, and the VAT," he says. "The boats worry about the quotas. Our agreement is that they are

independent, but sell only to the co-operative."

Hythe Bay has given Folkestone fishermen a living for centuries, but, over the years, has been overfished. There is no sole and no plaice, but there is cod, and there is sea bass — one boat in the co-operative landed 300 stone in a day.

"I wouldn't say it's a good living," says Mr Otley. "If I had a son I don't think I'd want him to fish. I honestly think we are an embarrassment to the Government. They don't stick up for us when they go to Brussels. They don't fight for the fishermen of Great Britain. If we

hadn't set up the co-operative, I think we would all have packed it in and ended up on the dole. We nearly went under through a £15,000 bad debt."

"The retail outlet has been a great success. We're now thinking of a second one. Customers come from all over the Home Counties — just to buy our fish. We're giving them a price. Our smoked haddock is £2 a lb. Supermarkets round here charge £3.45. It has a good turnover — no, I'm not telling you how much, because that's a trade secret — but 40 tons a year would be close."

Ironically, expansion of the

retailing could qualify for an EU grant. Mr Otley also has it in mind to start a fish restaurant. "When there's a cooking programme on TV featuring fish, we get inundated with requests next day for the fish that was used," he says.

"But the next few years will see the situation get harder because of the quotas. You won't be allowed to catch this, or catch that. It won't be long before there's a quota on bass, and then we're back to square one."

"I've surprised myself at how successful it's been. I didn't think I could do it. It was a challenge."

Six ways to end curse of late payment

By Rodney Hobson

ADVICE on how to cope with endless excuses for late payment of bills has been drawn up by Barclays Commercial Services, part of the banking group. The ability to differentiate between a genuine reason and a delaying tactic is a skill firms learn through experience, BCS says. These are the six commonest excuses — and how to get round them.

1) They are all in a meeting. Meetings can range from an all-day conference to a vital business trip abroad.

The solution: Find out if there is an alternative person to talk to. If not, state the time and date when you will ring back and ask for the person concerned to be informed. Keep a diary note and make sure you stick to the arrangement.

2) There is a query on your invoice.

There is usually no one available to explain the query. The solution: Ask why the query had not been raised earlier. You also need to determine precisely what the query is. If there is a question against the goods or service supplied, talk to your sales or production manager to ensure that when you call again you are armed with information. If there is a genuine dispute, ask for part-payment covering items not in dispute.

3) We have lost your invoice. The solution: Immediately fax a copy and offer to call back in five minutes to discuss when you can expect payment.

4) The accounts department is not in today.

This reason is normally given only by smaller companies and is often genuine. The solution: Note when the accounts people are next in and phone then. It is worth noting on your customer record what days the accounts person is in. Try to establish a cordial relationship.

5) The cheque is in the post. The solution: Ask for the cheque number and date it was written. If the cheque is not really in the post, this request should encourage the customer to prepare one. Make a note when the cheque should arrive and follow up immediately with another call if it does not. This will show you are monitoring payment closely.

6) We can't pay you until we get paid.

This is usually a genuine reason, but it is not your responsibility and your own cashflow could suffer. Stand firm on your payment terms. The solution: Ask for a date when you can expect payment and follow this up if payment does not arrive. If the customer cannot give a date, ask to speak to someone more senior. You should also advise your sales and production departments and, if necessary, suspend delivery of further orders. If the excuse is genuine, be pragmatic. Establish an agreed monthly payment plan and monitor payments.

Crime 'hitting investment'

CRIME is scuppering development plans for small businesses. Lloyds Bank says. Growing losses now cost the sector more than £1 billion a year, Lloyds says after surveying 1,800 small firms (Rodney Hobson writes).

The total cost in the past 12 months was £1.5 billion, with insurance covering only a third of that. The most common crimes were burglary and vandalism, followed by robbery, shoplifting and fraud.

Almost 20 per cent of the firms said they did not report crimes because they were too petty, because there was nothing that could be done or because there was little confidence in the police. More than half of those who suffered did not believe that the perpetrators would be caught. This belief may be misplaced: in about 18 per cent of cases, the offender was apprehended.

Most small businesses have increased security but more than half were still very concerned about the threat of further crimes. Victims believed that the best way to reduce crime levels was a greater police presence and tougher penalties.

John Spence, managing director of business banking at Lloyds, says: "Crime is clearly having a devastating effect on the UK's small business sector. They are paying a heavy price which impacts on the future health of the business."



Spence: devastating

Businesses have said that they are having to pay out money they would have used for business expansion, staff recruitment or new equipment. A business needs investment to survive and it is very worrying that this money is being diverted to pay for crime.

A free copy of a briefing on the cost of crime has been drawn up with police help. It is available from bank branches to help businesses to become more aware of the problems and to offer practical advice on minimising risks.

Smaller firms' optimism rises

By Brian Collett

OPTIMISM has grown in small and medium-sized businesses throughout Britain this summer in line with an improving economy, says the quarterly report from Lombard Business Finance.

The rise in confidence is most noticeable in the Midlands and East Anglia.

The main reason for the improved mood is a general increase in trade, says the company, whose researchers interviewed 450 financial decision-makers in businesses with turnover between £100,000 and about £10 million.

Of the interviewees, 53 per cent expected turnover to rise and 47 per cent expected higher profits, while an impressive 70 per cent intended to invest in new cars and equipment — mainly information technology and telecom systems.

The most marked recovery was found in the manufactur-

ing and printing industries, particularly in Wales and southwest England. The construction industry, too, was found finally to be reviving.

However, confidence has dipped in the transport, distribution and service industries. The Internet, the newest aid to business, is gaining acceptance, particularly in London and the South East. However, more than half the companies interviewed remained resistant.

Fewer businesses now relish the prospect of a general election. Many told the last quarterly review that they welcomed an election because it held promises of vote-buying concessions from the Government, but now 20 per cent give it as a reason for pessimism.

Paul Gee, Lombard's marketing director, said the surveys had so far only gathered raw figures, but later research would analyse trends.

More jobs mean fewer business start-ups

THE number of business start-ups fell by 1 per cent in the first half of 1996, according to figures from Barclays Bank (Rodney Hobson writes). The findings confirm two other surveys this month that indicate a return of entrepreneurs to paid employment as jobs became available after the recession.

The number of start-ups was stable in the second quarter at 110,000, but the

figure was easily offset by the 136,000 closures in the same period. However, Barclays says that the 3.82 million businesses in existence in the UK is still just ahead of the total 12 months ago.

Those who close their businesses are doing so out of choice, the bank says. Receiverships were down 18 per cent and insolvencies down by 5 per cent in the first six months of this year. David

Lavarack, small business director, believes this is because of the growing trend for start-ups to use their own capital — fewer than a third of new businesses now borrow money from outside sources.

The strongest region for start-ups this year has been the South West, up 9 per cent on last year. But in Yorkshire, the East Midlands and the North West they are 10 per cent down on a year ago.

BRIEFINGS

launched by Westminster Enterprise Agency, with financial backing from Barclays Bank. Membership and details of the launch breakfast on September 12 from Jane Parry on 0171-441 4958.



"I need it to meet the spiralling costs of your investment advisers!"

A one-day conference on the future of small business, organised by Durham University Business School and sponsored by NatWest Bank and Microsoft, will be held in London on October 17. The fee is £250 plus VAT. Call Joan Storey on 0191-374 2258.

A handbook on teleworking has been produced by Lloyds Bank and the Telework, Teletext and Teletext Association. It gives advice on businesses run from home, company teleworking and teleconferencing, the technology-equipped centres from which small businesses and home-workers can operate. The handbook costs £13.95. Details: 0800 616008.

Enterprise agencies have been weakened and have lost

funding through the introduction of the single regeneration budget system, under which they have to bid for grants in partnership with other bodies, the National Federation of Enterprise Agencies told the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee. The federation gained the committee's agreement that Business Links should refer start-ups and micro businesses to the agencies — it had complained that Business Links were duplicating the agencies' work in this area.

Tolson Messenger, the insurance broker, of Hammer-smith, west London, has started a club for holders of its home business policies. Members of the Home Business Club will receive fact sheets, a quarterly newsletter, independent financial advice and discounts on other insurance. Details: 0800 374246.

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LANSDOWNE KENSINGTON

Caps United go to head of table in international week



How appropriate in the week that World Cup football took precedence over league football in England and Scotland that Caps United should take over the leadership of Interactive Team Football (ITF). And that Andy Hinchcliffe, the Everton full back who received his first international call-up, should feature in the selection of Mr J Brown, of Southampton, who is setting the early pace with 108 points.

The second £250 weekly prize of the season goes to Tony Cooper, of Milton Keynes, whose Planet Zog capitalised on the Leeds United-Wimbledon fixture last Monday. Mr Cooper, a Tottenham supporter, picked up useful points through Nigel Martyn keeping the Wimbledon attack at bay.

Mr Cooper's team is:

Goalkeeper
N Martyn (Leeds)

Full backs
S I Bjornebye (Liverpool)
D Robertson (Rangers)

Central defenders
D Wetherall (Leeds)
R Gough (Rangers)

Midfield players
G McSwegan (Dundee Utd)
K McAllister (Hibernian)
R Earle (Wimbledon)
M Gayle (Wimbledon)

Strikers
P Van Hooijdonk (Celtic)
D Hirst (Sheffield Weds)

Manager
T Burns (Celtic)

It is early days, but if your



Paul Gascoigne made Glenn Hoddle's first England XI. Is the Rangers midfielder a selection of yours in ITF?



ITF transfer system which allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 866 968 line during the times given. From outside the UK, you must call 0044 990 200 668.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 498 122.

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1992-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tannets Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED		
Goalkeeper	4pts	Striker
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Scores goal
Saves penalty	1pt	All players
Full back/Central defender	3pts	Appearance
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Scores hat-trick
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins
Midfield player	1pt	Team draws
Keeps clean sheet*	2pts	Team loses

POINTS DEDUCTED		
Goalkeeper	2pts	Booked
Concedes goal	1pt	Concedes penalty
Full back/Central defender	1pt	Misses penalty
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal
All players	3pts	Manager
Sent off	3pts	Team loses

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match



ITF POSTAL ENTRIES CLOSE TODAY BUT A TELEPHONE ENTRY COULD STILL WIN YOU BIG PRIZES

The Manager of the Week and the Manager of the Month are up for grabs from now until the end of the season. You could be a winner of either by entering a team today. The Manager of the Week or Month can be won by any team no matter where it is in the league, the prize for the Manager of the Week or Month simply goes to the person whose team scores the highest points in any one week or month.

The prize for the Manager of the Week is £250 cash, plus a £250 Sports Gift Voucher for an amateur football team in your community — as nominated by you. The Manager of the Month will receive £1,000 cash.

You can still be a big winner in ITF. To enter today, just follow the instructions below.

Enter ITF by phone on 0891 405 011

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom, call 44 990 100 320

1. You must use a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone).
2. Choose 1 goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 central defenders, 4 midfielders, 2 strikers and a manager.
3. Do not spend more than £35 million.
4. Do not choose more than two individuals (2 players or 1 player and 1 manager) from any one football club.
5. Once you have chosen your team, call the entry line, above, and follow these step-by-step instructions.
 - a) You must tap in (not speak) the full set of selections (using the five-digit player codes) for each of your 11 chosen players and your manager.
 - b) You must speak the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) your name, address, with postcode, and daytime telephone number.
 - c) Finally, you will be given a ten-digit personal identification number (PIN) at the end of the call. You must keep a note of this number and your chosen team as no postal notification will be sent.



See Sky Text, page 118

0891 calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at all other times. Your call will cost approximately double if made from a pay phone. In the event of there being more than one Manager of the Week or Month, the winner will be chosen at random. All ITF rules apply, a copy of which will be made available on request. Simply call the guide number 0171 481 3355.

PLAY ITF ON-LINE

Play on-line to win all the great ITF prizes, including the £50,000 first prize. Plus play for special Internet prizes, such as the £1,000 top prize and the £250 monthly prize. You can also check your position in the internet league instantly, on-line.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Enter The Times Internet Edition at <http://www.the-times.co.uk>
2. Look for the special ITF button.
3. Entry on-line costs £7.50, payable only by credit card. This allows you to make transfers for the entire season.

FOR FREE ITF ENTRY GUIDES CALL 0171 481 3355

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 866 968

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom call 44 990 200 668.

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selectors PIN, which you will have to tap in, not speak. Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £35 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Player out	Player code
Club	
Player in	
Club	

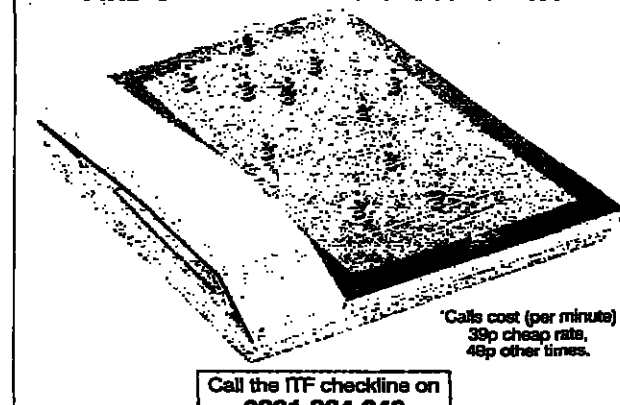
THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

IN	OUT
30902 ... Brian Welch	40608 ... Paul Trollope
50305 ... Steve Wilson	51402 ... Steve Mackay
51604 ... Ian Marshall	62501 ... Jimmy Thomson
Hibernian £0.75m	Derby £0.50m
Aston Villa £0.00m	Wimbledon £0.50m
Lancaster £0.75m	

LEADING 250 SELECTORS IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL GAME

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
1	Caps United (Mr J M Brown)	108
2	Sky Times II (Mr L McCullough)	102
3	Arrogant FC (Mr F K Taylor)	102
4	Evans Above FC (Mr A Grant)	98
5	Ginger (Mr T P Leah)	97
6	Avil's Meters (A Bang)	96
7	Easters Estate (Mr C G Jennings)	96
8	Matt's Dream 11 (Mr M Barnett)	92
9	AFC Domestics (Mr G Singh Mangat)	91
10	Daggers (V Cox)	89
11	(—)	89
12	Hutton Hotspur (Mr P Sheridan)	89
13	Nataschi's Team (N Macfarlane)	89
14	Rocky I (Mr K S De Silva)	87
15	Pitch United (Tusall)	87
16	Shack Attack (Mr R Shackleton)	88
17	N G United (N Geary)	88
18	Netherhall Nutters L (N Preston)	87
19	Nobby 34 (J Brown)	87
20	Thomas (H Lewis)	87
21	M S M Pads (Mr M Mathur)	87
22	Knm XI FC (Mr K Midey)	87
23	United In Footy (Oswald Aitor)	86
24	Nobby 20 (J Brown)	86
25	Dream Team 4 Da 95s (Mr M Adeyemi)	86
26	Better Than United (Mr E Redgate)	86
27	On The Up Two (Mr J Corfield)	86
28	Friendship All Star (Mr R Edley)	86
29	No Scot Players (Mr D Wilson)	86
30	Matthews XI (Mr M Casan)	86
31	Timbuc 2 (Mr O Leyland)	86
32	Andy's Allstars (Mr A Dear)	86
33	N S T Monkstone (Mr J Staszewicz)	86
34	Kelly Heroes (R McIlvenna)	85
35	Colloinos UI (Jemie Chaplin)	85
36	Gr Select 11 (G Redledge)	85
37	Corinthians Res FC (Mr M Lunn)	85
38	White Feathers (Mr M Catchpole)	85
39	(D Whalley)	85
40	Reservoir Dogs (Mr P Phelan)	85
41	West Wanderers (S Wast)	85
42	Russells Rangers (Mr P Diviney)	84
43	Dir XI (Mr R Garry)	84
44	It's A Funny Old Game (Mr A Wilkie)	84
45	Bad Time Boys (R Crook)	84
46	Yoggy's Boys (M Jacobs)	84
47	Smitty Rovers (Mr P Smith)	84
48	Insomniacs (Mr L A Tomlinson)	84
49	Asprey First XI (Mr D Pearce)	84
50	Galeocerone FC (Mr G L Douglas)	84
51	Lor Pae's Ponies (Ms L Paderick)	84
52	Selly Lucas (M Jones)	84
53	Wanda (M Milan)	83
54	Smoky Select (R Taylor)	83
55	The Trawler (Mr G Barnister)	83
56	(Mr I Botham)	83
57	Clueless County (Mr D McIntyre)	83
58	Sporting Spaniels (Mr P C Manning)	83
59	Damno's Dudes (Mr D McCarthy)	83
60	Wood's Wanderers (E Wood)	83
61	Flying Foreigners (Mr D Thomas)	83
62	Tonkies Trojans (J Hinchliffe)	83
63	Towanda Stars (L Evans)	83
64	(S Scholtes)	83
65	Pontia FC 2 (Mr S Mellor)	83
66	Pasodunk United (Mr J Wood)	83
67	The Foreign Legion (Mr S Allen)	82
68	Paging Hormones (Mr A McBride)	82
69	Hup Harringay (Mr A Land)	82

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



Call the ITF hotline on
0891 866 968
Outside UK: 44 990 100 343

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

==66	Ints Coal (G Lippert)	82	Avoncos Cosmos (A Keene)	80	Not Man U (Mr R Horsler)
==66	Endies Wanderboys (Mr Unsworth)	82	World In Motion (Mr P Copeland)	80	(—)
==66	A C Fantasy FC (Mr M Skipper)	82	Smithers Stars (Mr MA Smith)	80	(—)
==66	Mark's Magicians 1 (Mr M Kingston)	82	(—)	80	Grainville United (Mr A McKnight)
==66	Deans Lovely Bears (Mr J Brock)	82	Gloxy Hunters (M J Woods)	80	Bangers And Mash (Mr A J Parageter)
==66	Allstars (Mr M Davidson)	82	Vino 97 (Mr P Durham)	80	Lame Faith (C Alsopp)
==66	Mackay's Boys Utd (Mr J Mackay)	82	Matthew's Men (Mr M Gunn)	80	Bob (Mr M Haswell)
==66	(C Haines)	82	United Reserves (A Robinson)	80	Team Lincoln (Mr L Cowdell)
==66	By By Two Pound (Mr A Wray)	82	Top Team (S Bateson)	80	Net Busters (Mr N Morris)
==66	Gooners City (Mr C Gallagher)	82	Aston Villa (Mr W Dunstone)	80	Clarke's Classics (Mr T Clark)
==66	Look Out Andy Gray (R Dawson)	81	Knebworth Park XI (Mr J Walkers)	80	(—)
==66	Road Boys (Cm Wickson)	81	Rodents Rovers (Ms M Daniels)	80	Knighton Nibblers (Mr N Sharatt)
==80	35 Wasted 2 (C Ganesh)	81	Smithy's Hustlers (Mr A Smith)	80	Philomeno FC (Mr P Bentham)
==80	Cucumber United (Mr N Champ)	81	Ashley FC (Mr L A Taylor)	80	Kal's Kickers (K Howcroft)
==80	Four Ever Blues (S Noon)	81	My Hoovers Orange (Mr S Graham)	80	Wolf Of The South (Mr G N Murray)
==80	Alderside Villa (M Jones)	81	Ar Beany (Ms S Barnes)	80	Alan XI (Mr A Dyer)
==80	A C Lignament (Mr S Madge)	81	Premier Warriors (Mr M S Searcy)	80	Europe United (Mr P O'Donnell)
==80	Tom E Terminators (TE Unsworth)	81	L A Stars (Leslie Alton)	80	Eastlanders (R Kichin)
==80	Rude Awakening (Mr R Crompton)	81	Steve's Spurs (W Houston)	80	Born Losers 4 (S Uddin)
==80	The Red Richmond (J Loudier)	81	Tones Kickers (Tony Lewis)	80	The Heen Team (H Rejani)
==80	Almighty Than F C (Mr N Gartshore)	81	All Sorts XI (Mr J Jones)	80	Black Horse (Mr M Lane)
==80	Newcomers United (Mr A Sammut)	81	The Bertles (S Williams)	80	Frankie's Boys (Mr RM Jones)
==80	Who Needs Shearer (Mr A Woodness)	81	The Browne Eagles (O Ajae-Browne)	80	On Berger (Mr C Hanson)
==80	Expensive United (Mr C Haynes)	81	(—)	80	Imvans Raiders (I Paele)
==80	Beep Clean Chexey (Mr M Swallow)	81	Primrose Play Boys (M Cook)	80	X-Wing United (Mr N Pearce)
==80	Caroline B (A Luckhurst)	81	Hamlets Harriers (R Robertson)	80	Xenophiles FC (Mr P A Vickers)
==80	No Defense Again (Mr D Wilson)	81	Whitehead Wanderers (Mr A Whitehead)	80	Stuart Hall XI (Mr C Hoggard)
==80	Lucky's All Stars (Mr J Luck)	81	The Italian Job (Mr A Kneen)	80	Grahams Bangers (Graham Watson)
==80	Gulls Big Boys (Mr T Hunt)	81	Ginger FC (Mr A Spender)	80	Orc (S Pink)
==80	Too Few Blues In Use (Mr S Addley)	81	Tiers (Mr J Brown)	80	Red Army (P Bellhouse)
==80	Rage Rammers (Mr P Regan)	81	All Sorts XI (Mr J Jones)	80	Shorties (G Henderson)
==80	Robbo's Year Team (M Neal)	81	Preston Ponderer (Mr A Fitzpatrick)	80	Sad United (A Bar)
==80	Real's Rovers (N Rezaie)	81	Wexham Reserves (H W Roberts)	80	Alban Hamies XI (Mr A Hynes)
==80	Royle's Barry Army (Mr GLL Davies)	81	Tops Or Flops I (Mr J Spillat)	80	Ailey's Eagles (Mr A Hussyer)
==80	Barry's Team (Mr B Matthews)	81	Pate's Pretenders (Mr P Stevenson)	80	The Master Plan (S Henderson)
==105	A2 (K Farhall)	81	ECWS Rawlsons F (A Swift)	80	The Dream Machine (R D Mitchell)
==105	Nobby 5 (J Brown)	81	Premier XI (Mr M Jackson)	80	Average United (Mr R Button)
==105	Worth Every Penny (Mr N Elliott)	81	Carlisle Whispers (L Casey)	80	Tokki Town (Mr A Singleton)
==105	Plan B F C (Mr R Ayres)	81	The Mk Select XI FC (Mr M Kuckmany)	80	Fab 1 (Mr N Shah)
==105	King Cantons (Mr A Oldbury)	81	ITFC 2 Scum 1 (Mr J C Peak)	80	Fortuna Sandwich (Mr AJ Finkel)
==105	Atholia Rovers (A Mellers)	81	Garfields Gang (Mr G Duffell)	80	Premier All Stars (Mr A Pearce)
==105	The True Champs (Mr J Evans)	81	Foreigners R Us (Mr J Pretty)	80	Glassbacks XI (Mr P Allen)
		81	Lynch Mob (D Lynch)	80	Str's Champs (Mr S Williamson)
		81	Goofy's 2nd 11 (Paul Muldoon)	80	I'm The Greatest (Mr P Timms)
		81	Dutch Courage (Ruud Van Ruitenberg)	80	(—)
		81	John Hunt Taurton H (J Hunt)	80	The Pushovers (P J Hope)
		81	Nobby J (J Brown)	80	Simply Reg (J Bridge)
		81	Nobby (J Brown)	80	Glen Duffers (S Wilson)
		81	Greenhills Striders (Greenhills Striders)	80	The House F C (Mr N Chapman)
		81	Ginger Guys (Gary Wilks)	80	Ketic Warriors (D Concanon)
		81	Stamford Blues (Mr PK Spall)	80	Shunck Rovers (P Meehan)
		81	Blue Barry FC (S Smith)	80	F C Habodola (Mr J W Quarley-Papafio)
		81	Daves Devils (D Cook)	80	Jocky's Mice (L Rough)
		81	Champions Elect (P Garlands)	80	(—)
		81	Dinkys Demons (Mr B Davies)	80	Graemes Greats 1 (G Canel)
		81	Italica (Mr D Latta)	80	Malcoms Devils (Mr M Marlon)
		81	Scouse Army (Mr B Harwood)	80	Sallywags (Mr T Spackman)
		81	D & A Warriors (A Summers)	80	Supersonics (Mr R M Reed)
		81	Great Reb 96	80	Sydney's Men (Mr J H Melbourne)
		81	Power Balls (Mr I Anderson)	80	Sutton Shooters (G Cury)
		81	Adorno Star Squad (—)	80	Inter Hoolidink (S Dicks)
		81	Nabiles X (W Thompson)	80	Smashing (Mr K Mason)
		81	Season Selection (C Eason)	80	Gods Anouvers 2 (Mr S A Godfrey)
		81		80	Relying On Blotch (Mr M Ephgrave)
		81		80	Priory Rangers (Mr J Palmer)
		81		80	Lynam Up (Mr A Haynes)
		81		80	Jocks Awayday (Mr D Hsie)
		81		80	Bumbles XI (Mr S Jones)
		81		80	

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts	Wk	Av
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	+0	-3	
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	+0	+0	
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	+0	+7	
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	+0	+0	
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	+0	+0	
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	+0	+0	
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	+0	+7	
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-3	-7	
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	+0	+0	
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	+0	-2	
10502	D Christie	Chelsea	2.50	+0	+15	
10601	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	+0	+0	
10602	S Ogilvie	Coventry City	1.50	+0	+0	
10701	J Flann	Coventry City	0.50	+0	+0	
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	+0	+0	
10802	R Houl	Derby County	1.00	+0	-9	
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	+0	+0	
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	+0	+0	
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	+0	+0	
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	+0	+7	
11102	J Kearton	Everton	0.50	+0	+0	
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.50	+0	+0	
11201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	-7	-11	
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	+0	+10	
11401	D Lakovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	+0	+0	
11501	D Bearey	Leeds United	1.50	+0	+0	
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	+0	+0	
11503	N Martin	Leeds United	2.50	+5	-3	
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	+0	+0	
11602	Z Kalac	Leicester City	0.50	+0	+0	
11603	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	+0	+0	
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	+0	+5	
11702	T Warner	Liverpool	0.50	+0	+0	
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-3	-2	
11802	R Van Der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	+0	+0	
11803	T Coton	Sunderland	1.00	+0	+9	
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	+0	+0	
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	+0	-7	
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	+0	+3	
12101	S Hisslop	Newcastle United	4.00	+0	+0	
12102	M Crossley	Newcastle United	3.00	+0	+2	
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	+0	-3	
12202	A Feltus	Nottingham Forest	0.75	+0	+0	
12301	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75	+0	+0	
12302	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	5.00	+0	-12	
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	+0	+0	
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	+0	+3	
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	1.00	+0	-1	
12602	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	+0	+0	
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	+0	+0	
12801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	+0	+9	
12901	L Maitson	West Ham United	2.00	+0	-5	
12902	S Maouto	West Ham United	0.50	+0	+0	
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	-1	-9	
13002	P Head	Wimbledon	1.00	+0	+0	

DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts	Wk	Av
20101	S McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00	+0	+0	
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	+0	+7	
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	+0	+6	
20301	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.00	+0	+7	
20302	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	+0	+7	
20303	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	+0	+7	
20304	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	+0	+0	
20305	P King	Aston Villa	0.25	+0	+0	
20306	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	+0	+0	
20401	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-1	-2	
20402	G Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+0	+0	
20403	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-1	-2	
20404	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	+0	+0	
20501	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	+0	+0	
20502	T McKelvey	Celtic	3.00	+0	+0	
20601	D Petrescu	Chelsea	3.00	+0	+12	
20602	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.00	+0	+11	
20603	T Phelan	Chelsea	2.00	+0	+0	
20604	S Minto	Chelsea	1.00	+0	+4	
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	+0	+0	
20702	B Burrows	Coventry City	1.00	+0	-2	
20703	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	+0	+0	
20704	R Genaux	Coventry City	1.50	+0	-1	
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	+0	-3	
20802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	+0	-2	
20901	J Kavanagh	Derby County	0.25	+0	+0	
21001	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	+0	+0	
21002	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	+0	+0	
21003	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	+0	+0	
21004	C Miller	Dunfermline	0.25	+0	+0	
21005	A Tod	Dunfermline	0.25	+0	+0	
21101	M Hottiger	Everton	2.50	+0	+0	
21102	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.00	+0	+6	
21103	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	+0	+7	
21201	M Jackson	Everton	1.00	+0	+0	
21202	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	+0	+0	
21301	N Pointon	Hearts	1.00	-3	-3	
21401	M Miller	Hibernian	1.00	+0	+8	
21501	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	+0	+7	
21601	T Black	Kilmarnock	0.75	+0	+0	
21701	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	+0	-4	
21801	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	+0	-3	
21901	T Dorog	Leeds United	2.50	+0	+0	
22001	P Beesley	Leeds United	0.50	+0	+0	
22101	M Whitlow	Leeds United	0.50	+0	+0	
22201	S Grayson	Leeds United	0.50	+0	+0	
22301	N Lewis	Leeds United	0.50	+0	+0	
22401	F Roiling	Leeds United	0.25	+0	+0	
22501	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	+0	+0	
22601	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.50	+0	+0	
22701	S Bjornbye	Liverpool	0.50	+0	+9	
22801	P Charnock	Liverpool	0.25	+0	+0	
22901	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.00	-1	-5	
23001	G Neville	Manchester United	3.00	-1	-1	
23101	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00	+0	+3	
23201	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	+0	-3	
23301	C Branco	Middlesbrough	1.50	+0	+0	
23401	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	+0	+0	
23501	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75	+0	-3	
23601	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.25	+0	+0	
23701	S McMillan	Motherwell	0.50	+0	+2	
23801	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	+0	+0	
23901	S Watson	Newcastle United	3.00	+0	+1	
24001	R Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50	+0	+3	
24101	J Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50	+0	-2	
24201	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.00	+0	+2	
24301	D Lytle	Nottingham Forest	2.00	+0	+0	
24401	A Healand	Nottingham Forest	1.00	+0	+4	
24501	N Jerkan	Nottingham Forest	2.00	+0	+1	
24601	P Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75	+0	-5	
24701	D Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50	+0	-2	
24801	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	+0	+0	
24901	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	+0	+0	
25001	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	+0	+4	
25101	P Aheron	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	+0	+7	
25201	S Nicol	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	+0	+0	
25301	D Stancovic	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	+0	+2	
25401	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	+0	+0	
25501	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	+0	+0	
25601	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	+0	-6	
25701	S Charlton	Southampton	0.75	+0	+1	
25801	D Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50	+0	+7	
25901	M Scott	Sunderland	0.25	+0	+0	
26001	G Hall	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	+0	+0	
26101	J Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	+0	+5	
26201	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	+0	+7	
26301	J Edinburg	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	+0	+0	
26401	D Kenslake	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	+0	+2	
26501	J Dicks	West Ham United	1.00	+0	-1	
26601	T Breacker	West Ham United	1.00	+0	-1	
26701	K Rowland	West Ham United	1.00	+0	-1	
26801	M Bowen	West Ham United	0.50	+0	+0	
26901	K Brown	West Ham United	1.50	-1	-5	
27001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	0.75	+0	+0	
27101	A Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75	+0	-3	
27201	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75	+0	+0	
27301	D Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75	+0	+0	



Lee Sharpe celebrates his first goal for Leeds since moving from Manchester United — but has he brought you joy?

DEFENDERS (Continued)

Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts	Wk	Av
30101	B Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00	+4	+3	
30102	C Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50	+0	+1	
30201	T Adams	Arsenal	4.00	+0	+0	
30202	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	+0	+6	
30203	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	+0	+7	
30204	A Linington	Arsenal	1.00	+0	+5	
30205	S Maitland	Arsenal	2.50	+0	+10	
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	1.00	+0	+0	
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00	+0	+7	
30303	P McGrath	Aston Villa	2.50	+0	+0	
30304	C Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00	+0	+0	
30305	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	+0	+0	
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	-1	-2	
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+0	+0	
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	-1	-3	
30404	N Markar	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	+0	+0	
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	+0	+0	
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	+0	+0	
30601	A Stubbs	Chelsea	3.50	+0	+0	
30602	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	+0	+0	
30603	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	+0	+14	
30604	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	+0	+0	
30701	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	+0	+0	
30801	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	+0	+5	
30802	E Johnson	Chelsea	1.50	+0	+11	
30803	J Kjaerberg	Chelsea	2.00	+0	+0	
30901	L Daley	Coventry City	2.00	+0	-6	
30902	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	+0	-1	
30903	D Bussit	Coventry City	1.00	+0	+0	
30904	I Stimac	Coventry City	2.50	+0	-2	
30905	D Wessall	Coventry City	1.00	+0	+0	
30906	J Lousen	Coventry City	1.00	+0	-4	
30907	M Carbin	Coventry City	3.00	+0	+0	
30908	S Pressley	Dunfermline	1.00	+0	+0	
31001	M Miller	Dunfermline	0.75	+0	+0	
31002	I Den Bieman	Dunfermline	0.75	+0	+0	
31003	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	+0	+8	
31004	D Watson	Everton	2.50	+0	+1	
31005	C Short	Everton	2.00	+0	+0	
31101	D McPherson	Hearts	1.00	-3	-3	
31102	P Ritchie	Hearts	1.00	-3	-2	
31103	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	+0	+0	
31104	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	+0	+5	
31105	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	+0	-1	
31106	R Montgomery	Kilmarnock	1.00	+0	+0	
31107	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	+4	+3	
31108	R Johnson	Leeds United	1.00	+4	+1	
31109	L Radabe	Leeds United	1.00	+0	-3	
31110	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	+0	+0	
31111	S Walsh	Leeds United	1.00	+0	+1	
31112	C Watts	Leeds United	0.50	+0	+0	
31113	P Karmark	Leeds United	0.50	+0	+0	
31114	S Prior	Leeds United	1.00	+0	-2	
31115	P Bab	Liverpool	3.50	+0	+6	
31116	J Seales	Liverpool	3.50	+0	+0	
31117	M Wright	Liverpool	1.00	+0	+0	
31118	N Rudebeck	Liverpool	3.00	+0	+0	
31119	G Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	+0	+6	
31120	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.50	-1	-2	
31121	D May	Manchester United	3.00	-1	-2	
31122	R Johnson	Manchester United	2.50	-1	-6	
31123	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	+0	-2	
31124	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	+0	-2	
31125	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	+0	-3	
31126	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	1.50	+0	-1	
31201	B Martin	Motherwell	0.75	+0	+3	
31202	M Van Der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	+0	+8	
32001	P Albert	Newcastle United	2.50	+0	+0	
32002	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	+0	+2	
32003	C Cooper	Newcastle United	3.00	+0	+0	
32004	D Peacock	Nottingham Forest	3.00	+0	+1	
32005	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50	+0	+0	
32006	S Dennis	Rath Fovers	1.00	+0	+6	
32007	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	+0	+0	
32008	A McLand	Rangers	3.00	+0	+0	
32009	E Bjorlund	Rangers	3.50	+0	+3	
32010	J Newsonne	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	+0	+0	
32011	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	+0	+4	
32012	B Linington	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	+0	+1	
32013	M Rudebeck	Southampton	1.50	+0	+0	
32014	A Neilson	Southampton	1.00	+0	+2	
32015	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	+0	+0	
32016	A McVitie	Sunderland	1.00	+0	+7	
32017	K Bell	Sunderland	1.00	+0	+6	
32018	R Ord	Sunderland	0.50	+0	+0	
32019	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+0	+8	
32020	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+0	+7	
32021	G Mabbett	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	+0	+0	
32022	K Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	+0	+0	
32023	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	+0	+0	
32024	S Ellis	West Ham United	2.50	+0	-2	
32025	S Phipps	West Ham United	2.50	+0	+0	
32026	R Rait	West Ham United	1.50	+0	+0	
32027	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50	+0	+0	
32028	A Whitbread	West Ham United	0.50	+0	+0	
32029	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	+0	+0	
32030	A Thorne	Wimbledon	0.75	+0	+0	
32031	A Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75	+0	+0	
32032	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	+0	+0	
32033	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	+0	-3	
32034	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	+0	+0	

Lifeboats
Royal National Lifeboat Institution